

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MIAMI

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO. 127

REPORT MADE AT <b>MIAMI</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>MAR 11 1952</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1-21 to 3-8-52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>TEM:egh</b>
TITLE <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; HARRY T. MOORE, HARRIETT MOORE (deceased) - VICTIMS</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	

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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ROBERT L. JUDAH admits being Klansman and knowing BROOKLYN and BELVIN but denies ever seeing sketch of floor plans of MOORE's house. Would not admit ever being at Klan meeting with BROOKLYN and BELVIN. FRED REISNER recalls BROOKLYN visiting Apopka Klavern on occasions but denies ever seeking sketch of floor plans of MOORE's house or hearing discussion regarding MOORE. Other individuals mentioned by T-1 as probably being present at Klan meeting when BROOKLYN reportedly after meeting exhibited sketch of floor plans of MOORE's house interviewed but each denied any knowledge incident or of bombing. Additional fox hunting associates of BROOKLYN interviewed but furnished little or no information of value. Suspect JAMES B. JOHNSON denied knowledge of MOORE bombing or beating and shooting of ARTHUR HENRY HOLLAND. Occupants all houses in colored quarters, Mims, Florida, interviewed. No information obtained not previously reported.

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**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>RWW Wall, Jr.</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT EARL J. BROOKLYN	3 - 50
II. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT A. FORTENBERRY	51 - 53
III. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT JAMES B. JOHNSON	54
IV. INTERVIEW OF OCCUPANTS OF COLORED QUARTERS; MIMS, FLORIDA	55 - 57
V. INVESTIGATION OF TERRORIST INCIDENT, ORLANDO, FLORIDA	58 - 61
VI. MISCELLANEOUS	62 - 117

JPS/FEM:egh  
MM 44-270

I. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT EARL J. BROOKLYN

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on February 29 and March 1 and 4, 1952, at Winter Garden, Florida.

BASIS: ROBERT L. JUDAH interviewed inasmuch as he was likely one of small group who, according to recollection of Confidential Informant T-1, were exhibited floor plans of MOORE's house by EARL BROOKLYN.

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ROBERT L. JUDAH, Route 1, employee in the fertilizer section of the Winter Garden Citrus Growers Cooperative, was interviewed inasmuch as investigation indicated he was an associate of EARL BROOKLYN and a member of the Winter Garden Klan of the Association of Georgia Klans. At the outset an effort was made to have him cooperate with the Agents in furnishing information in this case. He was contacted on February 29 and agreed to come to the Orlando Resident Agency on March 1 for interview. On March 1 he telephoned the Resident Agency and stated he would not come to the Resident Agency and if Agents wanted to talk to him they could come to his home.

Accordingly, an attempt was made to interview him at his home on March 4, 1952. He was uncooperative from the outset, stating he did not remember information asked him by the Agents. He admitted being a member of the Ku Klux Klan, having joined after he got out of the service about 1945. He said he could not recall the year he joined the Klan and it was obvious his poor memory was a guise to avoid furnishing information.

He admitted he knows EARL J. BROOKLYN but would furnish no information, pleading loss of memory. He said he could not remember being in a Klan meeting with BROOKLYN, either in Orlando, Winter Garden or Apopka where, according to Confidential Informant T-1, BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of MOORE's house. He admitted knowing TILLMAN H. BELVIN but refused to furnish any further information regarding individual.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

JUDAH indicated he knew where the Apopka Klan met but other than that stated he did not remember whether he had ever attended a meeting in Apopka. It is noted the Apopka meeting place is on an island which is remotely situated and unless a person had visited a meeting he would have no knowledge of the location of the meeting place.

He is the type individual who does not exhibit a reasonable amount of intelligence. For example, at the time his photograph was obtained he advised the Agents he did not remember his serial number although he served in the Armed Forces at least two years.

The following is a description of JUDAH obtained through observation and interrogation:

Name	<del>ROBERT LLOYD</del> JUDAH, aka Bob, Judy
Age	30
Birth date	December 31, 1921
Birthplace	Preston, Louisiana
Address	Route 1, Winter Garden, Florida
Height	5'9"
Weight	200
Eyes	hazel
Hair	blonde
Build	heavy
Complexion	ruddy
Wife	JEAN JUDAH
Arrest record	several years ago at Winter Garden (exact date not recalled) charge indecent conduct --in an automobile with a woman in a public place, attempted forni- cation
Military service	U. S. Navy, 1943 to 1945, Fireman 1/c
NSN	830825 (guessed by JUDAH, not verified)
Brother	<span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span> aka Jack age 27, Winter Garden, Florida

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on February 26 and 28, 1952, at Apopka, Florida.

BASIS: Confidential Informant T-1 advised that according to his recollection FRED REISNER was among the small group of individuals who saw the floor plans of victim MOORE's house after the Apopka meeting.

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FRED REISNER, Constable of Apopka, and treasurer of the Apopka Klan of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (previously reported as Exalted Cyclops) was reinterviewed, particularly in order to verify the account as previously related by the informant that EARL BROOKLYN had exhibited the floor plan of the MOORE house to a small group which included BILL BOGAR, ROBERT L. JUDAH and FRED REISNER after a meeting of the Association of Georgia Klans in Apopka sometime in December, 1949 or January, 1950.

At first REISNER absolutely refused to discuss the identity or activities of any fellow Klansmen or anything concerning the meetings or operations of the Klan, still adhering to his Klan oath.

After a lengthy conversation, during which the necessity of his cooperation in this phase of the investigation was discussed, FRED REISNER agreed to furnish a limited amount of information which pertained to that period of time when he was the treasurer of the Association of Georgia Klans at Apopka shortly prior to the time he and the other members of that Klavern transferred to the Southern Knights.

When the information that he was one of a small group which saw the floor plans of MOORE's home late in 1949 or early in 1950 was presented to REISNER he emphatically denied he had ever heard the name HARRY T. MOORE prior to MOORE's death, denied that he had ever seen a map of MOORE's home or any piece of paper which might represent such a map. He denied he could recall any incident which might relate to that

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

account of the floor plan. He did not deny it was possible such a floor plan was exhibited after a Klan meeting but insisted that at least he himself had no knowledge of it. He stated he had never even heard any discussion through rumor or hearsay regarding MOORE, either before the Christmas day bombing or (as to who might have been involved) since the bombing. He did state it was the practice of members of the Association of Georgia Klans from Orlando and Winter Garden to visit the Apopka Klavern of the Georgia Klans, particularly if there was anything like a fish fry or chicken fry. He does recall that EARL BROOKLYN, TILLMAN BELVIN, known to him as CURLY (who always wore a large western-style fedora hat), and others he refused to name were in the practice of visiting the Apopka Klavern of the Georgia Klans. However, he insisted he did not know ROBERT L. JUDAH. He identified photographs of BROOKLYN and BELVIN from a group exhibited to him.

The average membership of the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans when FRED REISNER was treasurer never exceeded fifty; however, there were seldom more than twentyfive members who actually attended the meetings and frequently, particularly toward the end of his affiliation with the Georgia Klans, there were not sufficient members to conduct an official meeting.

In discussing the exhibition of the floor plan by BROOKLYN, FRED REISNER stated he did not believe it was a reasonable act on the part of BROOKLYN inasmuch as he knew positively that BROOKLYN and BOGAR hated each other intensely.

He stated that most of the fraternizing or visiting back and forth by members of the Apopka and Winter Garden-Orlando Klans took place while they were all part of the old Florida Klan. Just after Dr. SAMUEL GREEN, the Imperial Wizard of Atlanta, died and was succeeded by SAM ROPER, a decision was made to establish a Kleagle (organizer) for the district in the vicinity of Orlando. SAM ROPER decided to name BILL BOGAR as Kleagle much to the dissatisfaction of the Winter Garden-Orlando Klansmen. Prior to that time WALTON H. BROUGH of Wildwood had been made the Great Titan. BROUGH himself was not able to get along with BILL BOGAR. During the period before and during the time BOGAR was Kleagle (probably in 1949) bad blood and vehement ill will ran high between BOGAR and the Klansmen of the Orlando-Winter Garden area, among whom was EARL BROOKLYN. It got to such a point that BOGAR forbid other Klansmen who had been in the habit of visiting from Winter Garden and Orlando to attend

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

any Apopka Klan meetings. REISNER related that the hostility became so intense between the Apopka Klavern and the Orlando-Winter Garden group he heard that several rifles had been taken to the Apopka meeting hall for protection. He said he personally was afraid something might happen and during this period did not attend many meetings.

He heard a rumor that a committee was supposed to have come from Winter Garden-Orlando to ask BOGAR to resign as Kleagle. FRED REISNER claimed he did not see this committee and that if the members of that committee did come over they did not come into the hall where the Klan met but might have conducted their business outside the hall.

He said that it was odd, in view of bad blood existing between BOGAR and persons like BROOKLYN from the Winter Garden-Orlando Klavern that anyone like BROOKLYN should come to the Apopka Klavern and ask BOGAR for assistance in any matter which would involve such a serious project as instant bombing.

He stated he believed BILL BOGAR who was the Kleagle and also Exalted Cyclops would be in a position to remember dates and incidents such as would be of interest to this investigation.

During the interview it was apparent FRED REISNER did not like EARL BROOKLYN whom he described as a person he believed to be of bad character. REISNER could not be specific but stated he could not bring himself to trust BROOKLYN. He recalled that two or three years ago two men came to the cabin of a white man, L. T. HUNT, an elderly man of Longwood, who owns property in the negro quarters of Apopka and called him out, asking for his assistance in carrying a negro woman who had a broken leg to the doctor. After HUNT came out of his cabin one of these individuals grabbed him and the other hit him on the head, knocking him to the ground. He was hit on the back until he crawled under his car. REISNER stated they almost killed HUNT.

REISNER stated he investigated the case without being able to prove the identity of the attackers. He does not believe L. T. HUNT was beaten incidental to a robbery as nothing was taken from him. He was of the opinion EARL BROOKLYN and [redacted] were the two men who beat L. T. HUNT. The motive was probably the fact that HUNT was a white man living in the negro quarters.

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MM 44-270

The following incidental information was obtained during this interview:

FRED REISNER believes the Klan in Apopka used the name of the American Club and that the ground rented for the meeting place was rented in the name of the American Club and that recently a new 49 year lease was executed with the owner of the island to the American Club (Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan). This property is a small island on an unknown lake (possibly Fuller's Lake) approximately five hundred yards west of the Apopka-Winter Garden Road, approximately 3 miles south of Apopka. The island is owned by HERMIT SMITH, a grove owner and manager at Plymouth, Florida. The island is approximately one acre in area and contains a heavy growth of trees. On the island is a metal roofed building with wooden sides approximately 5 feet high and screen wire from there to the eaves. This building is approximately 40 x 70 feet.

In this connection is noted that HERMIT SMITH of Plymouth, Florida, at the time of a routine recontact on February 13, 1952, exhibited to the interviewing Agents a copy of a letter dated September 6, 1950, from his attorneys, BAKER and THORNEL, addressed to the American Club, Plymouth, Florida, care of BILL BOGAR and EMMETT HART, Apopka, Florida. This letter made reference to the fact that under date of October 7, 1944, the American Club was given the privilege of using certain land owned by HERMIT SMITH but that because of its improper and offensive use the addressee of the letter was ordered to discontinue any use of the property.

When questioned as to whether or not there was a Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans at Apopka, REISNER stated that he did not know. He stated he had heard rumors that a small group were meeting on Thursdays at the Knights of Pythias Hall in Apopka and that it possibly was a Georgia Klans group but that by reason of its small numbers did not amount to much.

He related that the meeting place of the Winter Garden-Orlando group was owned in the name of the Century Club.

At the same time there was friction between the Orlando-Winter Garden group and the Apopka Klan, there was also friction in the Orlando-Winter Garden group itself so that there was a split-up. Some members of the Winter Garden-Orlando Klan tried to come into the Apopka Klavern as a unit and offered to spend money to construct a cook-house. REISNER



JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

stated he refused to allow any to come in as a unit and that it was his policy to pass on each applicant as an individual.

FRED REISNER insisted that he has never been involved in any terrorist incidents, has always tried to keep any such incidents from happening in his territory and would assist in exposing any persons involved in such activities. He did state it was possible that members of his own Klavern without his knowledge might engage in such rough stuff.

When questioned about the incident which occurred over four years ago in which a woman and her daughter were beaten at Clarcona, Florida, at the instigation of the Klan, FRED REISNER stated he could not recall any such incident but did remember that several years ago a man had come in from Clarcona and told Dr. McBRIDE at Apopka that he had been beaten. REISNER did not investigate this particular incident.

He volunteered information concerning the incident which occurred near Rock Springs on the evening of February 25, 1952. He had heard that a woman, name unknown to him, who works at the Mount Plymouth Hotel had had a cross burned in front of her home on Rock Springs Road. He does not know the exact reason for the cross burning but believed it was possible some of the woman's neighbors might have been instrumental. He stated he does not know what goes on all the time in the Klan. This same information was furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 who stated a six-foot cross was burned, possibly at the instigation of neighbors who are having arguments with the woman who was a Catholic and also possibly to embarrass the Veterans Memorial Association of Apopka which was having a fish fry at Rock Springs only one-half mile from where the cross was burned.

LOUIS T. HUNT, white male, age 61, of Longwood, Florida, who owns considerable property in Apopka was interviewed concerning the above incident in which he received a beating.

Mr. HUNT stated the attack was made December 30, 1950, and he himself was positive it was perpetrated by two male negroes, one of whom might have been a mulatto. In fact he believed that one was RAYMOND CARMICHAEL who was killed in a wreck after being chased by a Florida

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

Highway Patrolman, and the other AUBREY COOPER, an associate of CAR-MICHAEL. From the account of the attack as related by LOUIS T. HUNT it was apparent the motive was robbery and there was no indication it was a terrorist incident. A photograph of EARL BROOKLYN was exhibited to Mr. HUNT but he stated it in no way resembled his assailants.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRANK F. MEECH and JAMES P. SHANNON on March 1, 1952, at Plymouth, Florida.

BASIS: ALBERT EDWARD HAYES, aka Edward Hayes, interviewed inasmuch as he is the present Exalted Cyclops of the Ku Klux Klan at Apopka, Florida, and reportedly a leading Klansman during the time EARL BROOKLYN exhibited floor plans of the home of HARRY T. MOORE after a meeting of the Klan in Apopka.

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ALBERT EDWARD HAYES, aka Edward Hayes, is employed by Snow Crop Concentrate Citrus Plant at Plymouth, Florida, on the night shift and resides at Company House 12, having recently purchased this house which is located across the street from the Minute Maid.

Mr. HAYES, who exhibited a cooperative attitude during the interview, furnished the following information.

He joined the Association of Georgia Klans in Apopka in 1949 when L. H. SHEPPARD was Exalted Cyclops of that Klan. He has been active during the period when the Klan was in the Association of Georgia Klans and continuously through the transition period when the entire Klavern transferred to the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He is presently the Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klan of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

During the course of the interview some questions were proposed to Mr. HAYES in order to elicit information which would tend to substantiate or discredit the information furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 to the effect that in 1951 while BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops of the Klavern EARL BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of the home of HARRY T. MOORE to a small group of Klansmen, some of whom were visiting, after one of the regular meetings of the Klan.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

When asked to furnish the approximate date the Klan transferred from the Association of Georgia Klans to the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Apopka HAYES produced the original charter issued August 10, 1950, by SAMUEL II, Emperor 4-6800, Imperial Wizard, witnessed by WILLIAM HENDRIX and N. T. LASHLEY to Apopka 7-2. During 1949 L. H. SHEPPARD was Exalted Cyclops of the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern in Apopka. BILL BOGAR was elected Exalted Cyclops in December, 1949, and held office until December, 1950, inasmuch as the officials of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan had instructed the Klavern continue in operation under the same officers as under the Association of Georgia Klans rules. Mr. HAYES was elected Exalted Cyclops in December, 1950 and was installed in January, 1951, holding the office through 1951. His term will expire June, 1952 when there will be an election in the Apopka Klavern in accordance with the election rules of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

When questioned about the friction in the Klavern, Mr. HAYES remarked there were several meetings when BILL BOGAR as Exalted Cyclops assumed a childish attitude and indicated he wanted to run things his own way. BOGAR was continually cursing at the meetings, and behaved like a childish old man in his actions and speech. He would quit if he could not have his own way.

EDWARD HAYES, who was born in 1929 and is therefore much younger than most of the Klansmen, believed that BILL BOGAR was jealous of him because he has been taking such an important part in the activities of the Klan while so young. It was HAYES' impression that BILL BOGAR tried to have HAYES and another Klansman, name not given, banished or suspended from the Apopka Klavern while BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops.

The membership in the Apopka Klavern continually decreased while BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops; however, there was no effort or intention on the part of the membership of the Klavern to oust BOGAR as Exalted Cyclops. There were never more than two regular officers at any meeting and it had arrived at such a state of affairs that there were sometimes only four or five members at any meeting. It was necessary for members to fill in as officers at the meetings. BILL BOGAR never had a regular secretary and took care of most of the correspondence himself. It was Mr. HAYES' impression that if it were not for BILL BOGAR's activities and his personal feelings the Klavern would still be in the Association of Georgia Klans. BILL BOGAR and L. H.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

SHEPPARD actually engineered the switch to the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan through BILL HENDRIX, the Grand Dragon of the Southern Knights. The matter of the transfer was brought to a vote after BOGAR made all the arrangements with HENDRIX. The Klavern voted to go along with BOGAR. The Klan had lost so many members they thought a change might help the situation. Instead, it continued to decrease.

BILL BOGAR continued to act as Exalted Cyclops until the end of 1950. After meeting with BILL HENDRIX at Tampa, Florida, it was decided to suspend BILL BOGAR from the Southern Knights, this being sometime in July or August, 1951 when BOGAR ceased to have any affiliations with the Klan. HENDRIX suspended BOGAR from attending meetings in Apopka but did not suspend his membership elsewhere.

When questioned about the friction which existed between the Klansmen from other Klaverns and BILL BOGAR, EDWARD HAYES volunteered the following information. Sometime prior to the time BILL BOGAR was elected Exalted Cyclops for the Association of Georgia Klans, SAM ROPER was Imperial Wizard at Atlanta and chose BOGAR to be Kleagle, or organizer, in the Orlando District. Those outside Apopka, especially those from Winter Garden, opposed the appointment of BOGAR as Kleagle. In addition to the opposition to BOGAR as Kleagle from the Winter Garden group led by ALEX SCHMITT, there was also opposition from ROY RAMSEY, EDDIE JACKSON and a young Klansman, small of stature, whose name HAYES could not recall. BILL BOGAR concentrated on ALEX SCHMITT in his rantings and ravings about Klansmen from the outside who were interfering in his business and the workings of the Apopka Klavern. BOGAR always directly accused ALEX SCHMITT of trying to get him out as Kleagle and to "get" his position as Exalted Cyclops in the Klavern. HAYES remarked that ALEX SCHMITT had told him that although he did not think BOGAR was qualified to be the Kleagle he had no ill feelings toward him, BOGAR. As far as HAYES knows, he believed SCHMITT is a good man who used to visit the Apopka Klavern alone. Invariably SCHMITT would come in order to obtain aid for members of the Winter Garden Klan who were in distress, unable to feed their children because of lack of work or who had had an unusual amount of medical expenses.

ROY RAMSEY, who HAYES believes was a member of the Orlando Klavern, rather than the Winter Garden, was in the habit of visiting the Apopka Klavern with one or two other men whose identities are unknown to HAYES.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

He also recalled that "cowboy" CURLY BELVIN, who was called "cowboy" because of his very large hat, used to visit the Apopka Klavern from Orlando quite a bit and was often accompanied by a small statured Klansman named JONES. HAYES characterized BELVIN as a "wind-bag" who talked a lot. It was the practice of BELVIN to try to take time on the floor of the regular Apopka meeting to just talk.

Because of the friction which was developing between the Apopka and Orlando-Winter Garden Klans which was generally called the Winter Garden Klan by HAYES, HAYES suggested a fish fry, to which BILL BOGAR objected strenuously. It seemed that several meetings before that time the Klan had discussed not having anything to do with them. When HAYES suggested the fish fry BILL BOGAR wrote out his resignation but was talked out of it by BERNIE BERNHARD, the milkman route foreman for Borden Datson Dairies. According to HAYES, BERNHARD is not presently in the Klan because he was transferred by his employer to the New Smyrna Beach or Daytona Beach area some time ago.

HAYES recalled that at the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops he would not let one or two carloads of visiting Winter Garden Klansmen including ALEX SCHMITT come into the meeting and they had to turn around and leave the Apopka meeting area.

According to HAYES, it has been a long time since he has seen any visiting Klansmen at an Apopka meeting of the Southern Knights.

Mr. HAYES knows EARL BROOKLYN and EDGAR BROOKLYN when he sees them and recalled they have visited the Association of Georgia Klans Apopka Klavern on several occasions. He is not acquainted with ROBERT L. JUDAH and has never seen him at an Association of Georgia Klans meeting in Apopka, except possibly at a fish fry.

When questioned specifically about the friction between EARL BROOKLYN and BILL BOGAR he said he never knew any friction existed between them.

When questioned about the incident where EARL BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of HARRY MOORE's house to a Georgia Klans group after a meeting, he stated that was the first time he ever heard such a thing, never heard it discussed at a Klan meeting, and actually never heard of HARRY MOORE until after his death. He recalled that

JPS/FFM:egh

MM 44-270

MOORE wrote several articles in the papers and recalled one regarding the Groveland Rape Case in which he scored Sheriff WILLIS V. McCALL; however, he always thought until he read of MOORE's death that MOORE was a white man.

When questioned about the practice of newspaper articles regarding MOORE and other leading negroes read on the floor, he said he did not recall any articles regarding MOORE being read. He did recall articles having been read from the Pittsburgh Courier. Mr. HAYES insisted he had no information regarding the death of HARRY MOORE and had no knowledge that the Klan was instrumental in his death. He explained that his job as an engineer on the night shift in the refrigeration section of the Snow Crop Plant prevented him from attending every meeting of the Klan and that had reference also to the pertinent period above described. He is now working a 12 hour shift and has attended not more than four meetings this year. He has been unable to attend any state meetings and has been forced to send a representative in his place.

HAYES furnished additional information which had relation to the friction existing in the Klan at the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops. There was a women's Klavern, or auxiliary, for the area meeting at the clubhouse, Route 50, about five miles west of Orlando. The auxiliary which was referred to as the Winter Garden Women's Klavern had membership from the entire Orlando area. BILL BOGAR's wife was intent on being elected Exalted Cyclops and running the Klavern in the Orlando area, but she was not able to win the election. She quit and brought some of her associates to the Apopka Klavern, much to the objection of the male members who did not want any women present. It was BOGAR's practice to try to have the women's meeting with the men and HAYES would make a motion for a stag, which would "tee BOGAR off".

HAYES stated he joined the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans just prior to the time JOE WADE and T. J. ~~McMENNAMY~~ joined.

He admitted that ELI THOMPSON is the uncle of his wife, LAURA HAYES.

When questioned specifically, HAYES stated he personally did not know J. B. ~~JOHNSON~~. However, he did identify a photograph of JOHNSON.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

Regarding terrorists HAYES stated he did not think any intelligent man should be engaged in such activities and if any members were caught in such activities they would be banished immediately.

During the interview HAYES was very cooperative and stated he would furnish any information he might obtain of value to this investigation.



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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents  
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Apopka, Florida.

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BASIS: JAMES PERRY MOORE, reported by Confidential Informant T-1 as an officer of the Apopka Klavern, Association of Georgia Klans, during the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops, and possibly present at the Klan meeting following which suspect BROOKLYN is reported to have exhibited floor plans of MOORE's house.

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JAMES PERRY MOORE advised he was a member of the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans for approximately three months and during that time he was the Klud. He explained the duties of the Klud were to screen the persons entering the meetings and it was his responsibility to see that only Klan members in good standing and who knew the password were allowed to enter the meetings. He stated that during 1950 he was a member of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan at Orlando. In this regard he advised he remained in the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans for approximately three months and it was at this time that the Apopka Klavern pulled out of the Georgia Klans and joined the Southern Knights. He said this action was taken a short time after the Imperial Wizard, SAM ROPER, came to Florida and made WALTON H. BROUGH Florida Grand Dragon of the Georgia Klans. He explained the members of the Klavern did not have confidence in BROUGH as an administrator or leader and were not in accord with his being made Grand Dragon. According to MOORE, they were advised by ROPER that regardless of their attitude, BROUGH was Grand Dragon and therefore would be so acknowledged. He stated it was shortly after this that a vote was taken and a majority voted to leave the Georgia Klans and join the Southern Knights.

MOORE claimed this took place prior to 1950, the exact date he could not recall. He also advised he does not know EARL J. BROOKLYN, TILLMAN H. BELVIN, JAMES B. JOHNSON and ROBERT L. JUDAH. He advised he is acquainted with FRED REISNER but denied he was ever in a Klan with REISNER or has any knowledge as to whether or not REISNER is or is not

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

a Klan member or has ever been a Klan member. He stated he knows L.H. SHEPPARD but only by sight, not being personally acquainted with him.

He was questioned as to whether he knows BILL BOGAR and advised he has known him for some time and described him as a man of good reputation and dependable. He stated BOGAR is very interested in the Lodge and was a member of the Armed Forces during the last war.

He was asked if BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klavern or whether SHEPPARD was or had been Exalted Cyclops there. MOORE stated that neither SHEPPARD nor BOGAR were at any time Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klavern while he was in the Klavern. He also stated he does not know whether BOGAR was ever Kleagle. He was questioned as to who was Exalted Cyclops at the time he was in the Apopka Klavern of the Georgia Klans and stated he could not reply inasmuch as he was abiding by his oath as a Klansman. However, he stated his statements in regard to BOGAR and SHEPPARD were absolutely true.

MOORE stated he never heard the name HARRY T. MOORE mentioned in any meetings of the Klavern and, in fact, never heard of HARRY T. MOORE until after the bombing of his residence. He also stated he does not have any information regarding terrorist activities which have occurred in Orange County in the recent past. He expressed the opinion that many acts of violence are attributed to the Klan whereas it has not been the Klan's responsibility. He stated he does not know of any "rides" or terrorist activities by Klansmen. He advised he is personally acquainted with HORACE DUDLEY but does not know whether DUDLEY is or has ever been a member of the Klan. He stated DUDLEY was formerly married to a woman by the name of PAULINE who is now married to CLYDE CHILDS. He said CHILDS was formerly employed by DUDLEY during the time DUDLEY was operating a taxi service and during that time CHILDS would frequently appear at the stand accompanied by PAULINE. He also advised that during that time he, MOORE, was driving a bus between Apopka and Orlando and PAULINE would often leave Winter Garden and go to Orlando without letting her husband know about it. He stated on a number of occasions DUDLEY approached him and asked if PAULINE had come to Orlando and he would tell DUDLEY she had and would tell him where she alighted from the bus. He stated the differences between DUDLEY and PAULINE were over the matter of property and the business and on one occasion he made the statement to someone in Winter Garden whose identity he can not recall that in his opinion any properties owned by PAULINE were equally the properties of DUDLEY. A short time after this he heard that CHILDS said he

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MM 44-270

was going to pistol whip him. MOORE said that after receiving this information he went to CHILDS and afforded him an opportunity to carry out this threat, but CHILDS backed down.

He was questioned as to whether he had ever received any information regarding a beating received by CHILDS at the hands of some white men and said he had never heard anything to the effect CHILDS had been beaten.

The following is a description as obtained from observation and interrogation at the time MOORE's photograph was obtained:

Name	JAMES PERRY MOORE
Address	1806 Indiana Avenue, Winter Garden, Florida
Birth date	November 12, 1911
Birthplace	Alma, Georgia
Height	5'6"
Weight	218
Eyes	blue
Hair	dark brown, bald on top
Education	high school
Wife	BEETIE MOORE
Children	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 1.2em;"></div>
Employment	Orlando Transit Company
Arrest	for carrying .38 caliber repeating rifle, Parrish, Florida, charged with being desperate character, claims acquitted.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on February 28 and 29, March 1, 3 and 4, 1952, at Plymouth, Florida.

BASIS: WILLIAM MELVIN WHITE interviewed inasmuch as he was, according to Confidential Informant T-1, an officer of the Apopka Association of Georgia Klans under BILL BOGAR as Exalted Cyclops and was most likely in regular attendance when the Apopka Klan was visited by EARL BROOKLYN after which meeting BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of MOORE's house, at the same time soliciting help in obtaining more information about MOORE.

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WILLIAM MELVIN WHITE who operates a grove service, U. S. Highway 441, was located at Christmas, Florida, and interviewed. WHITE refused to cooperate with the Bureau Agents and would not furnish any information about Klan individuals or activities. He would not admit he is now or ever was a member. He admitted knowing BILL BOGAR but would not state if he knew he was a Klansman. He also admitted knowing EARL BROOKLYN but would not state if he ever saw him at a Klan meeting. He emphatically denied knowing anything about MOORE, stated the first time he ever heard of him was after a news broadcast reporting his death.

It was impossible to conduct any interview of WHITE inasmuch as he would not answer any questions but continually made the statement, "No Klansman alive would think of committing such a crime as occurred at Mims."

The following is a description of MELVIN WHITE as obtained from observation and interrogation:

Name	<del>WILLIAM MELVIN</del> WHITE, aka <u>Melvin</u> <u>White</u>
Race	white
Birth date	<u>February 16, 1914</u>
Birthplace	<u>Zellwood, Florida</u>

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

Height	5'6"
Weight	140
Complexion	ruddy
Eyes	brown, rimless glasses
Hair	dark brown, receding at temples
General appearance	"ANDY GUMP" of the comic strip
Scars and marks	unusual scar or depression starting at left corner of mouth leading down and under the chin--that portion of chin shot away in unsuccessful attempt at suicide
Marital status	married
Wife	JENNIE HOYT WHITE
Children	WILLIAM MELVIN WHITE, JR. GLADYS CARMELITA
Stepdaughter	NADINE STARBIRD
Father	WILLIAM EDWARD WHITE
Mother	BEATRICE BAKER WHITE

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on February 26 and 27, 1952, at Apopka, Florida.

BASIS: PHILIP SAMUEL HUGGINS interviewed inasmuch as he was reported to be an officer of the Klan at the time EARL J. BROOKLYN allegedly exhibited floor plan of HARRY T. MOORE's home after a Klan meeting in Apopka and might be able to furnish corroborating information.

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PHILIP SAMUEL HUGGINS, Box 571, employee Ustler Brothers Fernery, furnished the following information.

He readily admitted that at one time he was a member of the old Florida Klan, the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern at Apopka and later the Klavern of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan at Apopka but stated that he quit the Southern Knights about a year ago when he became dissatisfied.

He was interviewed concerning any information he could furnish regarding Klan activities during the period of time L. H. SHEPPARD, BILL BOGAR and EDWARD HAYES were Exalted Cyclops of the Klans in Apopka in order to obtain, if possible, verification of the allegation by Confidential Informant T-1 that EARL J. BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of MOORE's home to a small group of persons after an Association of Georgia Klans Apopka meeting during the time BILL BOGAR was the Exalted Cyclops.

When questioned specifically as to whether or not he could recall an occasion after a meeting of the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern in Apopka when EARL BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plan of MOORE's home to BILL BOGAR, FRED REISNER, ROBERT JUDAH and possibly TILLMAN BELVIN or others PHILIP HUGGINS emphatically stated he could not recall any such incident, knew nothing about it and never heard the name HARRY MOORE discussed except it being mentioned by reason of his work in the NAACP. PHILIP HUGGINS could not recall any particular occasion when he observed EARL BROOKLYN speaking with a small group after a meeting although it is possible BROOKLYN did speak to some small group after one or more meetings

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

because at one time EARL BROOKLYN did visit the Apopka meeting. PHILIP HUGGINS stated he is not well acquainted with EARL BROOKLYN and would be unable to state who in the Klan were particularly attached to him or who might have a dislike for BROOKLYN. He does recall that once or twice EARL BROOKLYN attended the Apopka Klavern meeting with TILLMAN BELVIN, known to him as CURLY BELVIN, who when in attendance always made a little speech and always spoke the right kind of talk, that is, never made any inflammatory speeches.

He recalls ROBERT L. JUDAH came over from Winter Garden a few times but can not recall whether or not he came with either EARL BROOKLYN or his brother, EDGAR BROOKLYN or TILLMAN BELVIN.

PHILIP HUGGINS insisted he knew nothing that would associate any members of the Klan with the bombing at Mims in which HARRY MOORE was killed.

During the course of the interview PHILIP HUGGINS furnished the following background information which might be of value in substantiating the information furnished by T-1.

Sometime in the latter part of the war, about 1944 or 1945, he joined the Klan at the time it was known as the American Club of Apopka and was part of the old Florida Klan. He attended meetings of the Klan fairly regularly and was active in the Klan as the Florida Klan, Association of Georgia Klans and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan until about a year ago when he just quit paying his dues. He insisted he was never one of the "fire eaters" in the Klan. He could not explain who he would describe as a "fire eater" in the Klan, claiming no one would advise him if there were any terrorist activity contemplated because he did not agree with such. He stopped attending the meetings because he lost interest, was getting older, had to spend more time on his job and thought that sooner or later the whole Klan was going to get into trouble because of improper activities. He could not or would not explain the basis for this opinion but stated it was just a hunch on his part. He claimed he had no hard feelings toward anyone in the Klan at the time he ceased to attend.

In 1944 FRED REISNER who is now constable in Apopka and MELVIN WHITE who has a grove service at Plymouth were both prominent in the Florida Klan under FRED BASS who was the Great Titan of the area.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

Shortly after the war the growth of the Klan was sparked by its opposition to Communism. Just prior to the time the Apopka Klan went as a unit from the Florida Klan into the Association of Georgia Klans it was independent for a period of less than six months. During that time it applied for an Association of Georgia Klans charter which was given to them personally by Dr. SAMUEL GREEN who came down from Atlanta for that purpose.

He was the last Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klavern of the Florida Klan. However, he believes there was an election of officers between the time they left the Florida Klan and was independent and the time they got the Association of Georgia Klans charter. He does not believe he was the Exalted Cyclops at the time Dr. SAMUEL GREEN came down to give them the charter. The Florida Klan as a state organization had already disbanded at the time the Apopka Klavern received the Association of Georgia Klans charter.

The Lodge itself voted to go into the Association of Georgia Klans. A quorum taken of such a vote was taken in the presence of all officers or their substitutes in the amount of 12 to 15 members. He recalls at the time the vote was taken the secretary wrote to Atlanta to make application for the Georgia charter.

PHILIP HUGGINS was unable to recall the man who was Exalted Cyclops of the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern at Apopka prior to the time L. H. SHEPPARD was Exalted Cyclops. He did not believe the Lodge remained in the Association of Georgia Klans for more than two years.

Under L. H. SHEPPARD he never noticed any real frictions in the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans. In fact, to his knowledge, there was no friction in that Klavern before BILL BOGAR became Exalted Cyclops. Generally, he does know there was some friction somewhere in the Apopka Klavern about the time BILL BOGAR was the Exalted Cyclops but he did not actually know the nature of the disagreement or friction and actually did not know who was involved. He knew that at one time some of the members were interested in ousting BILL BOGAR as Exalted Cyclops and thought that the following might have been the individuals in the Apopka Klan who were in the forefront in this opposition to BILL BOGAR: JOE WADE, LELAND GEORGE, R. G. STEVENS (deceased) and McMENNAMY.



JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

He recalled that in the past while the Klavern was in the Association of Georgia Klans it was the practice of some of the members of the Winter Garden- Orlando Association of Georgia Klans Klavern to make some friendly visits to the Apopka meeting. He did not believe the Apopka Klavern members reciprocated to any degree by visiting the other Klaverns.

Frequently groups of two or three or as many as five members of other Klaverns would visit at the Apopka meeting and there would be more in such a group if there was a fish fry or chicken fry. He does recall seeing the following persons visiting the meeting of the Apopka Klavern prior to the time the Apopka Klavern went over to the Southern Knights:

EARL BROOKLYN whom he knows only slightly and who used to be accompanied by his brother, EDGAR BROOKLYN.

ALEX SCHMITT who visited from Winter Garden a few times.

CURLY BELVIN (TILLMAN H. BELVIN) who also visited only a few times.

ROBERT L. JUDAH who visited a few times.

~~KEMP~~ MASK who visited once or twice.

~~LEE~~ DAVIS who visited a few times.

HUGGINS was unable to associate any of the above as being in attendance at the Apopka meeting together except for the two BROOKLYN boys. He does not believe EARL BROOKLYN has visited in quite some time but could not be specific as to the time which has elapsed since BROOKLYN's last visit. He believes it was five or six times that EARL BROOKLYN visited the Apopka Association of Georgia Klans Klavern.

Upon being questioned concerning the existence of friction between BILL BOGAR and members of the Klan from other Klaverns, HUGGINS advised he had heard talk that BOGAR forbade members of the Winter Garden-Orlando Association of Georgia Klans Klavern to attend the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern meetings at Apopka and that he decided he would not have them over any more. HUGGINS insisted he was not

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

present at the time this decision was made by BOGAR and does not know the source of the friction between BOGAR and the members of the other Klavern. He had heard these Klansmen from the other Klaverns were thought to be trying to run the Klan in Apopka and were offering advice to BOGAR which he did not like. He further related it was about the time this friction arose between BOGAR and persons outside the Apopka Klavern that BOGAR was Kleagle for the Orlando area. As far as he can recall, BILL BOGAR was the only Kleagle the Klan had in that area at any time and he had it for only a few months. When questioned specifically HUGGINS was unable to state why these Klansmen from other Klaverns objected to BILL BOGAR.

HUGGINS believes it was in the summer of 1950 while BILL BOGAR was the Exalted Cyclops that the entire Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans went over to the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. He believes he was the Klaliff of the Klan under BILL BOGAR at the time the vote was taken to transfer from the Association of Georgia Klans to the Southern Knights. HUGGINS was not too sure of his title at that time inasmuch as he had been the chaplain and the Klaliff at various times.

HUGGINS explained that the Apopka Klavern of the Association of Georgia Klans wanted to go over to the Southern Knights because there seemed to be some trouble going on in Alabama or Georgia --- some people in the Klan up there were getting into trouble such as the difficulty in which HUGH MORRIS was involved in Alabama.

It was the consensus of opinion in the Apopka Klavern that SAM ROPER, the Imperial Wizard in Atlanta, was "way off", that the Georgia Klan looked like it was headed for trouble and it was decided to transfer to the new outfit, the Southern Knights, which had been organized only a short time before this change made by the Apopka group. He recalls that WALTON H. BROUGH, Grand Dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans in Wildwood, had paid a visit to the Association of Georgia Klans Apopka Klavern to discuss the situation prior to the transfer. He believed Mr. BROUGH is a person who is on the easy-going side and did not strike him as being a violent man or one who would approve any violence.

Mr. HUGGINS furnished the following as officers in the Association of Georgia Klans Klavern Apopka when BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops:

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

He was Klaliff, or vice president;  
FRED REISNER was treasurer, a position which he held  
under the Association of Georgia Klans and the Southern Knights.  
PERRY MOORE was Kladd, who was in charge at the door.  
L. H. SHEPPARD was the Night Hawk, who was in charge of  
candidates.

~~ELI THOMPSON~~, uncle of PERRY MOORE, sat at the door or  
served as fill-in for other offices.

EDWARD HAYES, MELVIN WHITE and ~~LESTER HARDEE~~ were on the  
Klokann Committee.

~~JACK GEIGER~~ who lives south of Orlando whom he has not seen  
in over a year was the Klokard, or lecturer.

~~BERNIE-BERNHARD~~ who is a milkman working for Borden-Datson  
Dairies was possibly the Klud, or chaplain.

Mr. HUGGINS stated that he was probably the Klud or chaplain  
when EDWARD HAYES was Exalted Cyclops and at one time he also held the  
office of Klokard or lecturer. When EDWARD HAYES was Exalted Cyclops  
for the first term a house painter named WILLIAM ELROD was the Klaliff.  
He further explained that the office of secretary, as well as many of  
the other offices, were filled from meeting to meeting by various mem-  
bers in attendance and that although a Klansman might have been elected  
to a position there were very few officers who fulfilled their duties  
continuously during any administration.

When questioned specifically concerning the following persons  
Mr. HUGGINS furnished the following information:

At no time was his brother, BRUCE HUGGINS, ever in the Order  
to his knowledge.

R. G. PITTMAN, SR. is now deceased. His son, R. G. PITTMAN,  
JR. who lives on Dream Lake, operates the Florida Poncan Corporation  
in Apopka.

~~LAWRENCE SMITH~~ and ~~JOHN TALTON~~ attended the Association of  
Georgia Klans and the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan at Apopka.  
He does not recall that JOHN TALTON ever held the office of Exalted  
Cyclops.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

~~HERMIT SMITH~~ very seldom attended and has not been in attendance at a Klan meeting in a long time.

~~WILLIAM GODING~~ was a member but was never to his knowledge Exalted Cyclops.

ROBERT GIBBS was never a member of the Klan while HUGGINS was attending.

He did not know too much about JOE WADE or EMMETT HART inasmuch as they were only in the Association of Georgia Klans with him for a very short time.

The following additional persons were known to HUGGINS but he could not furnish any specific information about their Klan activities and could not furnish any information concerning them which would be of interest in this investigation:

LEE DAVIS  
IRVIN FIEDLER  
ADIS JERNIGAN  
R. G. HOWELL

HORACE DUDLEY  
WILLARD ~~SMITH~~  
JOHN T. "TINY" THOMAS

HOWELL used to live in Apopka years ago and worked in a garage there.

The following is a description of PHILIP ~~HUGGINS~~ as obtained from observation and interrogation:

Race	white
Sex	male
Birth date	November 16, 1908
Birthplace	<u>Williston, Florida</u>
Height	5'10"
Weight	215
Hair	brown, greying
Eyes	blue
Address	Box 571, Apopka, Florida
Employment	Ustler Brothers Fernery
Father	GEORGE HUGGINS, deceased

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

Mother  
Wife  
Children

ELIZABETH TUCKER, deceased  
ALVIE HAYES HUGGINS  
three

It should be noted it was apparent PHILIP SAMUEL HUGGINS was cooperative during this interview.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRANK F. MEECH and JAMES P. SHANNON on March 1 and 3, 1952, at Apopka, Florida.

BASIS: LESTER GORDON HARDEE interviewed inasmuch as he was reported to have been on the Klokann Committee of the Apopka Klan at the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops.

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LESTER GORDON ~~HARDEE~~, (not HARDY as previously reported,) 361 East Orange Avenue, who is presently a full-time night patrolman of the Apopka Police Department and who for eight years, on and off, was associated with the Apopka Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff's Office, furnished the following information.

He joined the Klan when it was the Florida Klan. This was about seven or eight years ago. He stayed in the Klan a short time during that period and was out of the Klan for about five years. He was reinstated in the Association of Georgia Klans at Apopka when L. H. SHEPPARD was the Exalted Cyclops and just a short time before BILL BOGAR went in as Exalted Cyclops in 1950. He admitted being an officer under BOGAR and remained on the Klokann Committee through the period when the Apopka Klan went over to the Southern Knights August 10, 1950.

In order to obtain information which would tend to verify or discredit the allegation that EARL BROOKLYN exhibited the floor plans of the residence of HARRY T. MOORE while BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops, it was necessary to question HARDEE about his employment and possible attendance at meetings at that time. He stated he started to work for the Consumers Lumber and Veneer Company in 1947 and worked there as a temporary employee until about eight months ago when he received his regular appointment with the Police Department, as a patrolman. Due to his work he did not attend meetings regularly. His shifts were from midnight to 6:00 A.M. or from 6:00 P.M. until midnight. Klan meetings during this period were held on Friday evenings. It happened that during this period he worked a 13 hour shift all night on Fridays. Occasionally he got someone to work for him and could attend a meeting about once a month.

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

When questioned about friction within the Apopka Klavern, HARDEE explained that as far as he could recall the operations of the Klan were smoother under L. H. SHEPPARD than under BILL BOGAR.

It was not long after BILL BOGAR went in as Exalted Cyclops that friction arose. It was BOGAR's practice to make lengthy talks at meetings for an hour or so about things in which the rest of the men were not interested.

When questioned specifically about the exhibition of floor plans of MOORE's house by EARL BROOKLYN, HARDEE stated he could not recall ever hearing of such an incident or of floor plans which might have had reference to HARRY MOORE. He never heard of HARRY MOORE prior to his death and did not know anyone in the Orlando area who would be the type capable of doing such a job. He stated he does not know much about the Klan membership outside Apopka and did not know the members in Winter Garden. Because he was not in regular attendance at Klan meetings there was considerable about Klan activities with which he was not acquainted.

At first LESTER HARDEE stated he could not recognize the photograph of EARL BROOKLYN but then admitted he probably saw BROOKLYN at a meeting of the Winter Garden Klan at one time. He does not recall seeing him at an Apopka meeting.

Before BILL BOGAR became Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klan HARDEE recalls hearing BOGAR complain about the BROOKLYN boys. BOGAR continually talked against EARL and EDGAR BROOKLYN and also ROY RAMSEY who also attended the Apopka meetings. He was not a member and was never seen by HARDEE at an Apopka meeting. He heard that BOGAR barred the BROOKLYN boys and ROY RAMSEY from the meetings at Apopka and also barred CURLY BELVIN from attending. BELVIN, who came from Orlando, visited and sometimes made a speech about his appreciation of being a Klansman. HARDEE recalled that a short stout grey-haired man with a red face and with an impediment in his speech such as a stammer, who was a little over five feet tall, used to visit the Apopka Klavern and may have come with T. H. BELVIN. He can not associate him with SCHMITT and does not know whether he came from Orlando. He recognized a photograph of ROY RAMSEY as a man he had stopped for speeding as he was coming into Apopka from Orlando. He said RAMSEY might have been the man who owed some money to an Apopka Klansman and believes an attempt was made to

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

blackball him from attendance at Apopka meetings because of this. He believes that the appointment of BILL BOGAR as Kleagle for the Orlando District of the Association of Georgia Klans aroused objections from the BROOKLYN boys and ROY RAMSEY. He believes that possibly ROY RAMSEY wanted to be Kleagle himself.

ALEX SCHMITT used to visit from Winter Garden to attend meetings of the Apopka Association of Georgia Klans. There was only one time SCHMITT was accompanied by a Klansman, whose wife was in the hospital, and came over from Winter Garden to pass the hat. It was SCHMITT's habit to visit solely for the purpose of soliciting aid for distressed Klansmen whose families needed food or housing.

When questioned as to why the Association of Georgia Klans in Apopka transferred to the Southern Knights, he stated he was not really interested in the reason because he went along with the rest automatically but believed it had something to do with the operation of the Klan by SAM ROPER. The nature of the operation was not known to HARDEE.

When questioned about any incidents which involved violence or terrorist activities, HARDEE volunteered the following information. Last year a man from Lake Jessup (LYMAN MYERS) came over from near Sanford with a deputy sheriff from Seminole County. They were looking for an old car with a red radiator grill which with a grey car had been used by a group of white men to administer a beating to this man from Lake Jessup. This group had stopped him and asked if they could borrow a jack, then hit him over the head and took him to a rural area where he was beaten unmercifully. When HARDEE asked the man why he had been beaten he said that they accused him of being a "nigger lover" and of having negroes eating at his table. HARDEE said he did not know the above described car and suggested he get a deputy from Orange County to help him. They left and went out near the TB hospital where they called HARDEE and said they would work it out at Winter Garden. He heard no more of this incident and knew nothing of the burning of the man's home.

Regarding the man with a long scar on his face, the identity of a person named CLAUDE YATES or CLAUDE WAITTS, or LLOYD HATCH, he stated he was not acquainted with such persons and could not furnish any information regarding any of them.



FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

During the course of this interview HARDEE made the following observations about persons mentioned.

MARION EDWARD WADE, also known as JOE WADE, is a man about whom he knew no derogatory information except that he drank a lot. WADE, together with STEVENS, now deceased, was suspended from the Apopka Klan of the Association of Georgia Klans because they were opposed to BILL BOGAR and always fought him at Klan meetings.

T. J. McMENNAMY whom he has locked up for speeding and LELAND GEORGE also used to run around with JOE WADE.

EMMETT HART is the father-in-law of ALTON DIXON, was an associate of SHERWOOD STARWOOD and FRED REISNER years ago before HARDEE joined the Klan. HARDEE has no use for him, relating that one time HART had a small automobile accident with an old negro and wanted to beat up the negro to make him pay for the damages. HARDEE did not approve of this.

He did not believe WILLIAM DUNNAWAY, presently Chief of Police was ever an officer under BILL BOGAR.

BERNIE BERNHARD was an officer while HARDEE was in the Association of Georgia Klans.

PERRY MOORE, a bus driver, is a man who is a "bag of wind" and is very objectionable because of his habit of telling dirty stories and jokes.

MELVIN WHITE is a member of the Klan who is presently operating a grove service at Plymouth. At one time he attempted to commit suicide by using a shotgun but partly missed and shot off part of his face.

JACK GEIGER is a tall man in the grove business, wears a big hat and is a member of the Klan.

ROBERT L. JUDAH, aka JUDY could not be recalled by HARDEE, either by name or photograph.

L. H. SHEPPARD is a person with whom HARDEE is not too well acquainted. All he could recall was that SHEPPARD was a retired Navy man and spoke of the part he had in the Navy.

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

When questioned about the character of BILL BOGAR, HARDEE stated he did not know much about him. He did recall that at one time BOGAR came to him to complain about a man named TOM FIELDHOUSE who was crooked and would keep money which he collected for the American Legion or charitable organizations.

When questioned about acts of violence and his activities on the Klokann Committee he insisted he knew of no acts of violence which could be attributed to the Klan.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on March 1, 1952, at Plymouth, Florida.

~~BASIS:~~ ~~TEDDY LAWRENCE SMITH~~, aka LAWRENCE SMITH and T. L. SMITH interviewed inasmuch as he was allegedly active in the Apopka Klan and might have been in attendance at the Association of Georgia Klans meeting at the time BROOKLYN allegedly visited at the meeting and exhibited the floor plans of MOORE's house after the meeting.

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TEDDY LAWRENCE SMITH, Box 33, a fruit contractor for the Minute Maid Growers Exchange and the Minute Maid Plant, admitted he is still a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

When questioned about the incident wherein the floor plans of MOORE's house were exhibited after an Association of Georgia Klans meeting, LAWRENCE SMITH insisted he never saw such plans, never heard any discussion of such at a meeting and never heard of HARRY MOORE until after his death.

He knows by rumor that EARL and EDGAR BROOKLYN were in a lot of beatings and were probably blamed for a for which they were not responsible. He remembers he has seen EARL and EDGAR BROOKLYN and TILLMAN H. BELVIN and a man he recognized by photograph as ROBERT JUDAH visiting the Apopka Klan meetings but can not recall any of these persons visiting after the Groveland Rape incident. He claimed he was never in the Klan when it was the Florida Klan and never held office under BILL BOGAR although he might have acted as an officer. He stated he could not recall when they transferred to the Southern Knights from the Association of Georgia Klans.

When questioned about friction which existed in the Klan he stated he was one of those who disagreed with SHEPPARD and BOGAR about having women attend Klan meetings. He believes there was a lot of trouble about the operation of a women's Klan, or auxiliary, during the summer he was away from the area, possibly 1950. He heard some of the members did not like what was going on in the Klan but he could not give any details.

During the interview it was apparent he was not interested in furnishing any information and generally pleaded ignorance.

TEM/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents  
[REDACTED] on February 28, 1952, at  
Apopka, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: ELI EDWARD THOMPSON reported by T-1 as being a member of the Apopka Klavern, Association of Georgia Klans, during the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops and possibly present at the Klan meeting following which suspect BROOKLYN is alleged to have exhibited floor plans of MOORE's house.

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ELI EDWARD THOMPSON advised he has been a member of the Apopka Klavern, Ku Klux Klan, for approximately two years. He stated he is a paid-up member in good standing but does not attend meetings regularly. He said he was unable to recall the date he joined the Klan but does recall he joined a short time before BILL BOGAR was thrown out of the Klavern because he could not get along with the members. He described BILL BOGAR as a personal friend and a neighbor.

He said he knows L. H. SHEPPARD but he was not aware whether or not he was a member of the Klan and had heard nothing about whether SHEPPARD was ever Exalted Cyclops of the Klavern.

Mr. THOMPSON advised he does not know EARL and EDGAR BROOKLYN or TILLMAN H. BELVIN. He also stated he does not know whether or not the aforementioned individuals are or ever have been members of the Klan, adding that they are completely unknown to him.

He also advised he does not know WILLIAM K. BERNHARD or whether he has ever been a member of the Klan.

In regard to LESTER HARDEE, EDWARD HAYES and FRED REISNER, he stated he knows these individuals but only by sight and has never seen them at a Klan meeting and does not know whether they are presently or ever have been members of the Klan.

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MM 44-270

THOMPSON stated PHILLIP HUGGINS is a member of the Klan and he has seen him at a number of meetings since BILL BOGAR was banished from the Klan.

He also advised that WILLIAM DUNNAWAY, presently Chief of Police, is a member of the Apopka Klavern and he has seen DUNNAWAY in attendance at some of the meetings.

In regard to victims MOORE, THOMPSON advised he never heard of HARRY or HARRIETT MOORE until he read about the bombing at Mims in the newspapers. He pointed out that their names were never mentioned at any meeting and were completely unknown to him until after their death. He said he does not have any information regarding the terrorist activities that have occurred in the Orlando area in the recent past. He denied he had ever participated in a "ride" or any form of terrorist activity.

Throughout the interview he appeared to be cooperative but in answer to a number of questions he made the statement he did not know much about the Klavern at Apopka although a member inasmuch as he did not attend meetings frequently. He explained his failure to attend meetings as being due to his wife's objection to his being away from his home at night.

He was questioned as to whether he was in attendance at a meeting following which floor plans were exhibited by suspect BROOKLYN. He stated he had never heard of or seen any floor plans of MOORE's house or heard any discussion with reference to MOORE until after MOORE's death. In this regard he stated he heard FRED REISNER state in regard to the bombing at Mims, "Not a man in Apopka has enough sense to have done that type of bombing." He said REISNER did not elaborate on the statement.

The following is a physical description of THOMPSON taken from observation and interrogation at the time a photograph was obtained.

Name	ELI EDWARD THOMPSON
Age	46
Birth date	August 13, 1905
Birthplace	Alma, Georgia
Race	white
Sex	male
Height	5'7"

TEM/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

Weight	147
Hair	dark brown, streaked with grey, prominent widow's peak
Eyes	brown, rimless glasses
Employment	Orlando Transit Company
Wife	IDEL THOMPSON
Education	5th grade
Military service	none
Arrest record	Macon, Georgia, drunk
Brothers	ALLEN, Bradenton, Florida; JOHN, Waycross, Georgia; GEORGE, Hazelhurst, Georgia
Sister	Mrs. RACHEL MOORE, Alma, Georgia

TEM/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents  
[REDACTED] on February 28, 1952, at  
Winter Garden, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: WARREN K. BERNHARD reported by T-1 as being a member of the Apopka Klavern, Association of Georgia Klans, during the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops and possibly present at the Klan meeting following which suspect BROOKLYN is alleged to have exhibited floor plans of MOORE's house.

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WARREN K. BERNHARD advised he is not at present, nor has he ever been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. He stated he came to Orlando in 1946 and has been employed for some time as delivery man and is at the present time employed by the Borden Datson Dairies. He stated in this regard he has made deliveries at Apopka, Florida, and has become acquainted with a number of residents of Apopka. However, he does not know anyone in the Klan and has never been approached to join the Klan. He also advised he has never resided at Apopka.

In regard to the MOORE bombing he stated he never heard of MOORE until he read of the bombing in the newspapers. He advised he does not have any information regarding the persons responsible for the bombing.

He advised he does not know EARL and EDGAR BROOKLYN or TILLMAN H. BELVIN.

BERNHARD stated during the interview that his father, JOSEPH W. BERNHARD, resides at Clermont, Florida, is presently employed as a police officer. He said he and his father do not get along well and he has had very little contact with his father for a number of years. He further advised he does not know whether or not his father is or ever was a member of the Klan.

The following is a description obtained through observation and interrogation at the time a photograph of BERNHARD was obtained.

TEM/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

Name	WARREN <del>K.</del> BERNHARD
Address	745 Formosa Street, Winter Garden, Florida
Age	30
Birth date	February 28, 1922
Birthplace	<u>Stamford, Connecticut</u>
Height	6'1"
Weight	197
Hair	blonde
Eyes	blue
Complexion	fair
Education	high school, one year college
Occupation	delivery man, Borden Datson Dairies, Orlando
Military service	U. S. Air Force, September, 1941 to December, 1945, honorable discharge
USAF #	11033150
Wife	ELIZABETH M. BERNHARD
Daughter	[REDACTED]
Sister	ELLEEN G. BERNHARD, Stamford, Connecticut
Father	JOSEPH W. BERNHARD, Clermont, Florida
Mother	AGNES S. BERNHARD, Stamford, Connecticut (separated)
Arrest	Winter Garden, drunk
Organization	Masons

b6  
b7C



RTN/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ and [REDACTED] on March 7, 1952, at Apopka, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: Chief of Police ~~WILLIAM DUNNAWAY~~ reinterviewed to ascertain whether at any time while attending Klan meetings he saw any member display floor plans of MOORE's house.

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WILLIAM DUNNAWAY, Chief of Police, advised he never saw anyone display any floor plans, maps or other papers in connection with the home of MOORE and stated emphatically he did not even know where Mims was, let alone know victim MOORE until after the incident occurred. He said the only thing he has come upon since the incident has been through newspaper articles and the various conversations in and around Apopka coming from church groups or street corner conversations.

He is not sure whether or not he knew EARL BROOKLYN. He advised that a few years ago they were building a bank next to the city hall in Apopka and a concrete truck drove up. Someone pointed to the driver and said his name was EARL BROOKLYN. DUNNAWAY said he could not be sure whether it was or was not.

When queried about acts of terrorism in the Apopka area, DUNNAWAY advised he knew of no such acts nor had he had any reported to him. He did state a couple years ago someone had "knocked an old man in the head" in the grove area and he thought it was for the purpose of robbery; however, later in the interview DUNNAWAY stated the man carried a large amount of money on his person but after being attacked it was ascertained none of the man's money was missing. He was very vague about his action in the case other than to state he talked to a few colored boys about the case.

DUNNAWAY advised that on one occasion someone, he thinks it was small boys, burned a cross in front of a school teacher's house in the same block that the police station is located. He stated nothing was ever done about this.

RTN/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

Outside the city limits there were cross burnings and some complaints about Klan activity; however, this did not come under his jurisdiction and when such occurred he immediately reported it to the Sheriff's Office. He could not recall any incident where he had reported to the Sheriff's Office.

He was unable to state who might be the individuals in the Apopka area who engaged in "rough-house" tactics. He stated he would go back on his oath to the Klan if he "called any names" and therefore refused to do so. He stated he would be glad to assist the Bureau Agents in any way possible but he would not violate his Klan oath. He advised he looked upon the Klan oath as he did the oath he took when he became a police officer and also stated that if any Klansmen violated the law he would arrest them immediately regardless of their Klan status.

He advised FRED REISNER was the "nicest man you'd ever want to meet".

He did not know much about BILL BOGAR other than that he was a veteran and active in American Legion affairs.

He did not know the following men:

TILLMAN H. BELVIN  
JACK GEIGER  
ALEX SCHMITT

ROBERT L. JUDAH  
WARREN K. BERNHARD

DUNNAWAY stated he could not name anyone in Apopka who could give any information in reference to instant case.

He stated insofar as his activity with the Klan went, he seldom attended a meeting.

He repeatedly and emphatically denied that any acts of terrorism had occurred in Apopka since he had been on the police force as an officer or as chief.

PLS/CPA:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents CLYDE P. ADERHOLD and [REDACTED] on March 4, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: JACK GEIGER interviewed inasmuch as he is reportedly an officer of the Klan at Apopka and supposedly present at a Klan meeting after which EARL BROOKLYN exhibited floor plans of the home of HARRY T. MOORE.

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JACK GEIGER, who appeared cooperative during interview, advised he first became interested in the Klan at an Orlando gathering of the Ku Klux Klan sometime during the spring of 1950. This gathering which was open to the public appeared to be a recruiting rally, according to GEIGER.

He filled in an application which he received at this meeting and forwarded it to the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Apopka, Florida, and was later admitted to the Apopka Klavern of the Southern Knights during approximately May or June, 1950. He remained a member of the organization until about mid-January or early February, 1951, at which time he resigned because his employment prevented him from attending Klan meetings more than once a month.

GEIGER said he was an officer in the Klan during the first three or four months of his membership but was replaced as an officer because he was unable to attend a majority of the meetings. He said he was apparently made a officer due to the fact just a handful of men attended meetings at Apopka.

He said the office he held in the Klan for several months was termed the Klokard, which is the official who swears in new members; however, during the few months he held this position, no new members were sworn in.

GEIGER said he believed BILL BOGAR was the Exalted Cyclops of the Apopka Klavern during the time he attended meetings. He stated he only attended eight or nine meetings, at which times there were never more than a few men present.

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MM 44-270

GEIGER claimed he never heard of TILLMAN H. BELVIN, WARREN K. BERNHARD and EARL BROOKLYN and that he was not familiar with the names of other members supposedly present when EARL BROOKLYN allegedly showed other members floor plans of HARRY MOORE's home. He was unable to identify a photograph of EARL BROOKLYN and denied knowledge of floor plans being shown to him or anyone else at any meeting at which he was in attendance.

He added he never heard of HARRY MOORE until after the bombing incident about which he read in the newspapers. He stated he never participated in or had any knowledge of any violent Klan activities.

JACK GEIGER, subsequent to interview, was photographed, at which time the following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	ANDREW JACKSON <del>GEIGER</del> , aka Jack
Address	Route 5, Box 849, Frederick Drive, Orlando, Florida
Age	35
Birth date	<u>January 15, 1917</u>
Birthplace	<u>Okeechobee, Florida</u>
Height	<u>6'2"</u>
Weight	207
Hair	dark grey, curly
Eyes	brown
Scars and marks	none
Wife	AMANDA GEIGER
Employment	grove work, Gentyle Brothers
Sister	Mrs. LAURA HALL, Sanford, Florida
Brother	RALPH GEIGER, Gene's Service Station, Sanford, Florida
Arrest record	arrest for fishing violation approximately 12 to 13 years ago, Seminole County, fine \$42.50

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ and [REDACTED] on March 6, 1952, at Apopka, Florida.

b6  
b7C

BASIS: Hunting associates of suspect EARL BROOKLYN interviewed to determine background information regarding BROOKLYN.

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WILLARD HARMON, Apopka, advised he has known EARL BROOKLYN for some eighteen years but had never associated with BROOKLYN closely until about two years ago when they became interested in fox hunting together. He met BROOKLYN one evening while fox hunting and through their mutual liking for fox hunting they have continued to hunt together once or twice a week. Mr. HARMON stated he only knew BROOKLYN as a fox hunter. He has never had any social contacts with him in any way. He advised as far as he knows BROOKLYN is "alright, a hundred per cent fellow". He advised BROOKLYN seemed to be easy-going and he has never heard of his being in anything illegal. He said to his knowledge he does not even drink. In regard to BROOKLYN's temper HARMON advised he has never seen him particularly upset except on one occasion. This occurred during a fox hunt when all the others were sitting about an automobile listening to the dogs in the chase and some unknown persons fired a couple blasts from a shotgun. Seconds later shot pellets fell into the group. At this point BROOKLYN got angry but seemed to be under control as he decided to report it to Sheriff DAVE STARR and, according to HARMON, STARR investigated. It was never determined who fired the shots.

Mr. HARMON advised he himself never was a Klansman, did not believe in their practices and knows nothing about their activities in and around Apopka. He stated he has never heard anything mentioned about Klan activities while hunting and has never heard any opinion voiced about the death of HARRY T. MOORE. He said as far as he knows none of his associates knew anything about MOORE until after his death.

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

He advised the only recollection he has of any Klan activities was in last November when he was driving down back of a grove and passed a car parked by the side of the road and some men standing around. His wife stated she thought she saw a man sitting in the back with a hood on. The next day the paper reported there had been some cross burnings around Orlando. He was not sure his wife saw a hooded figure but she just stated she thought one of the men was hooded. He could not identify the car or any of the men standing around it.

He advised the group which fox hunts once or twice a week includes D. VARNER, J. T. RICE, a grove and cattle man, CARROLL HAMMERICK, a cattle man, and ARTHUR A. PITTMAN who works in a bank in Orlando, and WALTER BALLARD, age about 75, from Ocoee. HARMON advised they were a good group and had many enjoyable experiences while fox hunting. He said they often call one another and plan such a hunt. They never bring liquor but just sit around and listen for the barks of the dogs and try to identify them. He said that although these hunts are very informal and many things are discussed he has never heard anything about the MOORE bombing or about Klan activities.

HARMON was asked if he knew TILLMAN H. BELVIN, JAMES B. JOHNSON, ALEX SCHMITT or ROBERT JUDAH to which he replied he had never heard of any of them.

WILSON HAMMERICK, brother of CARROLL HAMMERICK, advised he engages in fox hunting with EARL BROOKLYN but not as often as his brother, CARROLL. He stated he has gone along on one or two occasions. He advised he has known EARL BROOKLYN for about a year and during this time he estimates he has hunted with BROOKLYN and others three or four times. He does not know BROOKLYN socially. He stated that as far as he knew BROOKLYN he seemed to be a nice person. HAMMERICK advised he had heard nothing derogatory about him nor had he ever heard he was a Klansman. He stated he knows of no one in the Apopka area who belongs to the Klan. Neither he nor his brother approved of activities carried on by the Klan and although they had been approached years ago to join they had refused and he could not recall the man who approached him. He stated he had never heard the MOORE bombing discussed on these hunts nor has he heard anyone mention the Klan. He stated he is familiar with Klan activity only through what he has read in the papers.

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MM 44-270

He advised the group who usually fox hunt together includes WILLARD HARMON, ROBERT MOORE, D. VARNER, J. T. RICE, a Mr. BALLARD and his brother, CARROLL HAMMERICK.

WILSON HAMMERICK advised he did not know TILLMAN H. BELVIN, JAMES B. JOHNSON, ALEX SCHMITT or ROBERT L. JUDAH. He stated he knew a JOE WADE who operates a radio repair place in Apopka but his knowledge of WADE is limited to the fact he had his radio repaired there one time.

He advised the only Klan activity he actually saw in years was while he was in Orlando about a month ago when a huge cross was burned near the Orlando Air Field and he noticed a platform and a lot of people around the platform. The following day he read that one BILL HENDRIX had made some sort of address to a Klan meeting there.

CARROLL HAMMERICK advised he had known EARL BROOKLYN for about two years and hunted with him and a group of Apopka citizens on the average of once or twice a week. He advised he met BROOKLYN through J. T. RICE who had leased some land in the Rock Springs area near Apopka for hunting. He advised that as far as he knows EARL BROOKLYN is a nice fellow. He stated he has never associated with BROOKLYN socially, just as a hunting companion. He advised they often kid one another about whose dog is doing the best tracking in the hunt and BROOKLYN seemed to be an easy-going sort of person. He does not know whether BROOKLYN belongs to the Klan and stated he could not name one man in or around Orlando and Apopka who belonged to the Klan. He stated he was approached years ago by an unknown man to join the Klan but he advised this man he did not believe in the policies of the Klan.

HAMMERICK stated a lot of things are discussed while the dogs are tracking but he never heard the MOORE bombing being spoken of nor has he ever heard any mention of the Klan during these hunts.

He stated that the following people are usually included in the group of hunters: WILLARD HARMON, ROBERT MOORE, J. T. RICE, D. VARNER, WALTER BALLARD, GARRETT I. GILLIAM, B.I. "BUD" LAMB and himself.

He stated that he did not know TILLMAN BELVIN, J.B. JOHNSON, ALEX SCHMITT or ROBERT JUDAH. He knows JOE WADE to be a radio repair man in Apopka and FRED REISNER a police officer in Apopka. He said he heard through rumor that REISNER was an ex-Klansman.

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

ROBERT MOORE advised he has known EARL BROOKLYN for about a year and has on many occasions participated in fox hunts with BROOKLYN and fished with him and J. T. RICE on one or two occasions. He advised he had met BROOKLYN through RICE. He does not know BROOKLYN socially. He stated he could not even say accurately where BROOKLYN lived. As far as he knew BROOKLYN was a fairly nice fellow who is extremely interested in outdoor sports. He stated he is never outspoken but he believes him to be a man who says what he thinks. He is easy to get along with and has talked politics on occasion but never local politics. MOORE advised that the discussions that are held while the dogs are running the fox are of a wide variety and to his knowledge they have never discussed anything about Klan activities or the MOORE bombing. MOORE advised he is not, nor has he ever been, a member of the Klan, that he was approached in about 1945 by an individual he did not know by name but he thought the man came from Orlando. This man asked him if he would be interested in joining the Klan. MOORE replied he disapproved of the whole theory of the Klan and did not care to be a part of it in any way. He could not identify this man or furnish a description.

Insofar as Klan activities are concerned, MOORE stated he recalled that three or four years ago he saw a cross burned outside Orlando and other than that he knew of no activities of Klansmen in or around Apopka. He said it was rumored there was a Klan in Apopka but people were rather "close" about talking of Klan activities. He said he did not know whether BROOKLYN was a Klansman or not and that BROOKLYN had never said or done anything that led him to believe he was a member of the Klan.

MOORE stated the following men were usually in the group of fox hunters: J. T. RICE, WILLARD HARMON, GARRETT I. GILLIAM, D. VARNER, BUD LAMB, WALTER BALLARD, CARROLL HAMMERICK and himself.

He advised he did not know TILLMAN BELVIN, ROBERT JUDAH, ALEX SCHMITT or J. B. JOHNSON. He knew a JOE WADE who ran a radio repair shop in Apopka but his association with WADE was very limited. He recalled WADE helped MOORE's father set up some appliances in his radio shop for demonstration. He said he had talked to WADE only on the occasion he had a radio repaired.

GARRETT I. GILLIAM advised he has known EARL BROOKLYN all his life. He stated when they attended grammar school together in Ocoee they often fought but later became friends. This friendship was



RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

developed through their mutual love of hunting and fishing. He has not had social contact with BROOKLYN but only in hunting and fishing. He stated as far as he knows BROOKLYN is a fair fellow. He did not know if he was a Klansman and had never heard anyone mention that he was.

He stated BROOKLYN had no more racial prejudice than anyone else in Ocoee. He stated the reason for the white people around Ocoee being anti-negro was the race riot that occurred there many years ago. At that time homes were burned and both negro and white people were killed. As a result most of the old-time residents of Ocoee have no use for the negroes. He vaguely remembers the riots occurring and some of his father's negro employees had come to their house asking for protection, at which time his father had the negroes hid in the basement and barn to protect them from the white people. He stated BROOKLYN would probably recall this riot and hold a little prejudice against the negroes. He could not recall what set off the riots in Ocoee.

GILLIAM advised he had belonged to the Klan but had dropped out about 22 years ago. He stated the reason for his discontinuing his membership was because the Klan was accepting "riffraff" into its ranks and he could not go up and shake hands with a man, referring to him as "brother" when he disliked the person and his activities. He stated the original purpose of the Klan was white supremacy in the south and this included being against Communists and other organizations that were harmful to the United States. He stated at the time he belonged to the Klan advocated Bible teaching.

He recalled the meeting house for the Klan was on Jackson Street in Orlando. He advised he would not call any names because of the oath he had taken when he originally joined the Klan. He stated he had a poor memory for names and he would not care to mention any and then find out he was wrong and cause the person embarrassment. He was advised that any name he mentioned would be kept in confidence and no embarrassment would be caused to anyone. He still refused to mention any name.

He advised that when he returned from the Service in World War II he had been approached by a man he would not name to rejoin the Klan. He told this man he did not approve of their practices and understood it was against the law of the government to be a Klan member.

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

He did state he believed FORREST KILGORE was secretary of the Klan around 1945. He stated he did not know this except through rumor. On the subject of KILGORE he advised that a couple weeks ago he had sent one of his negro employees to plow some ground for KILGORE and for some reason KILGORE became quite upset at what the negro was doing and immediately called him and stated he was going to thrash the negro. At this GILLIAM advised he went over to KILGORE's place and inquired about the trouble. KILGORE advised the negro had plowed around a tree he did not want bothered and something should be done about the boy's stupidity. KILGORE had threatened the colored boy who said if he had not begged, KILGORE would have struck him. GILLIAM stated that although KILGORE is a fellow Mason and he risked being criticized by Lodge members, he told KILGORE if he had harmed the negro he would have had to "stomp" him, at which time KILGORE asked if he was "sticking up for the niggers". GILLIAM replied that no one would beat one of his men for no reason and that he never allowed it.

GILLIAM advised that the following men were included in the group that usually participated in the weekly hunts: CARROLL HAMMERICK, EARL BROOKLYN, BUD LAMB, WALTER BALLARD, D. VARNER, J. T. RICE, WILLARD HARMON and himself. He was asked if he knew TILLMAN BELVIN and advised that years ago he knew a man named BELVIN who was an automobile mechanic in Orlando but did not know if he were still there and had not seen BELVIN for some twenty years. He stated he did not know J. B. JOHNSON, ROBERT JUDAH, ELI THOMPSON or ALEX SCHMITT and EDWARD HAYES. He stated he did know BILL BOGAR, that BOGAR was a veteran, a past Legion Commander, member of the VFW and he heard BOGAR used to be a Klan member. In his opinion BOGAR was very "windy" and liked to hear himself "rattle off at the mouth". He advised FRED REISNER was a nice fellow and had been on the police force at Apopka for some time. He said JOE WADE ran a radio shop in Apopka and he knew him only through having repair work done by him. He said MELVIN WHITE was a competitor of his in grove caretaking and although they have had business difficulties it was no more than competitors run into and in his opinion WHITE was a nice sort and a square shooter. He stated PERRY MOORE was known to him as MOORE had recently been accepted into the Masonic Lodge and he felt MOORE was an average fellow and appeared to be friendly enough.

TEM:egh  
44-270

II. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT A. FORTENBERRY

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and FRANK F. MEECH on February 5, 1952, at Mims, Florida.

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b7c

BASIS: Information furnished by DAVID S. NISBET that LOD "BAD EYE" MESSER was a strongarm man for the late racket operator, JOHNNY WEATHERS, and also a strong supporter of A. FORTENBERRY.

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LOD "BAD EYE" MESSER who operates a fruit and juice stand approximately ten miles north of Mims, Florida, advised that for a number of years he was connected with the late JOHNNY WEATHERS, a racket man of Brevard County who died in 1946.

MESSER stated he is known by the name "Bad Eye" which is a nickname given him by his friends after he made a remark at a pool table one day that if he had two good eyes he would be an even better pool player.

He stated he was connected with WEATHERS in the rackets in Brevard County for many years and while connected with WEATHERS was also a supporter of A. FORTENBERRY. In this regard he said he highly regards FORTENBERRY for his truth, character and efficiency in office and he would support him again if he were to run for political office. He believes FORTENBERRY to have done more for Brevard County than any other single individual.

In regard to the Mims bombing he stated he does not have any information as to the persons responsible. In regard to the victims he stated he was not acquainted with them, but had heard that the MOORE family lived at or near Mims. In regard to MOORE's political activity in Mims he stated it is his understanding the negro vote at Mims went from the support of FORTENBERRY to the support of NISBET in the election between NISBET and FORTENBERRY for county commissioner. He stated he does not have any information regarding MOORE's political activity in this campaign nor any other political matter.

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

In regard to the bombing he stated he is of the opinion FORTENBERRY would not have had anything to do with such a type of violence or would even condone it. He stated he is of the opinion that FORTENBERRY's defeat which can be attributed in part to the support of the negro vote to FORTENBERRY's opponent had nothing to do with the bombing of the MOORE residence. He described FORTENBERRY as being a high type individual who would not stoop to such acts of violence.

With respect to the incident in which "TRIGGER" GRIGGS appeared at a meeting of colored voters prior to the election he said he had heard that GRIGGS had been sent down but he did not have any information as to why GRIGGS had been sent to the meeting or any information to the effect that GRIGGS had been sent to break up the meeting by FORTENBERRY or any of FORTENBERRY's supporters. He stated he is of the opinion FORTENBERRY would not stoop to such tactics and added it was NISBET's supporters who stooped to soliciting and obtaining the negro vote.

MESSER advised a day or two before the bombing of MOORE's home he and TAYLOR DUNN went to IRA NOBLE's orange grove to pick some tangerines. He said he wished to purchase tangerines for sale at his fruit stand and thereafter contacted NOBLES who agreed to sell him some tangerines. MESSER stated he and DUNN drove to the grove approximately 11:00 A.M. in DUNN's 1951 dark green Chevrolet pick-up truck. He said they remained in the grove about half an hour picking a box of tangerines and thereafter left. He stated he observed MOORE's house at that time although he did not know MOORE resided there. He said he recalls he did not see anyone around the house at any time. He pointed out that after the bombing he learned that MOORE resided in that house.

The grove referred to by MESSER is located approximately 75 yards northwest of the MOORE residence and is approached by the dirt road driving into the MOORE place from the northeast.

He said that on Christmas day he was working his grove and that night was at home and did not hear the explosion or anything about the bombing until he was told by someone on the morning of December 26, 1951.

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

A. FORTENBERRY is no longer being considered a suspect inasmuch as investigation to date has failed to disclose any specific information or evidence that FORTENBERRY is implicated in the death of the MOORES.

There has been no information received during the investigation of this phase of the case that FORTENBERRY held any animosity toward the MOORES or made any threats against either HARRY or HARRIETT MOORE.

In view of these facts no further investigation will be conducted regarding FORTENBERRY. In the course of other inquiries should there be received information indicating any implication of FORTENBERRY investigation will be conducted to verify such information and follow it to a logical conclusion.

CPA:egh  
MM 44-270

### III. INVESTIGATION REGARDING SUSPECT JAMES B. JOHNSON

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent CLYDE P. ADERHOLD on February 21, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

BASIS: J. B. JOHNSON was contacted at his request at his place of business, the Johnson Sewing Machine Exchange, 1100 East Colonial Drive.

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JAMES B. JOHNSON, Johnson Sewing Machine Exchange, 1100 East Colonial Drive, was contacted at his request on February 21, 1952. He stated he had heard he was being investigated by the FBI in connection with the bombing of the residence of HARRY T. MOORE at Mims, Florida, and the shooting of a negro named ARTHUR HENRY HOLLAND at Winter Garden, Florida, on the night of January 12, 1952. JOHNSON stated he wanted to officially deny any knowledge whatsoever concerning the MOORE bombing or the HOLLAND beating and shooting. He said that on Christmas day, 1951, he was at a barbecue in Seminole County with his family. He said further on the night of January 12, 1952, he had attended a drive-in theater with his family.

JOHNSON advised he had been a member of the Association of Georgia Klans all his life. He advised that the Klan is only a political organization and does not stand for any terroristic activities on the part of its members. He said he attended a Klan meeting on the night of February 20, 1952, and that it was decided at this meeting to appoint a committee of twelve to investigate Klan members and ascertain if any of them were involved in the bombing of the residence of HARRY T. MOORE. JOHNSON stated that all information obtained by this committee will be turned over to the FBI. He explained this committee had been appointed for two reasons; first, to ascertain if any member of the Klan had perpetrated the crime and, second, if any Klan member did commit the crime the Klan figured the sooner these persons were identified the sooner the pressure would be taken off the Klan by the FBI.

JOHNSON was not questioned at this time. It is expected he will be interviewed at a later date. He was told if he or any other member of the Klan received any information they should immediately report it to the FBI.

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

IV. INTERVIEW OF RESIDENTS OF COLORED QUARTERS, MIMS, FLORIDA

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on February 26, 27 and 28, 1952, at Mims, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: Contact residents of all houses in colored quarters at Mims to obtain additional information of value to instant investigation.

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Residents of all houses in the colored quarters were interviewed and asked if they had heard anything about the two white men who had appeared at BURNETT's store on May 17, 1951, inquiring for HARRY MOORE's residence. They were also asked if they had heard of anyone who had seen any automobiles or persons in the vicinity of the MOORE home just prior to the bombing. In addition to these specific questions, each person was asked generally whether he or she had any information of value to instant investigation. All were advised to contact the FBI immediately should any information come to their attention in the future.

In order to conduct this investigation a sketch map was made of the colored quarters and on it each house was placed in its relative position in the quarters. It should be noted only the main street designated as Church Street has a name. None of the houses has a number. For purposes of control these houses have been numbered on the map. This map is being maintained in the Miami file.

It should be noted that many of the individuals recontacted during the course of this investigation have been previously contacted and have furnished information in instant case which has been reported previously. These persons are designated by an asterisk after their names in the list appearing below.

Except for information previously received and reported, none of the individuals contacted were able to furnish any information of value to this investigation. Their names are being set forth in alphabetical order and opposite each name appears a number corresponding to the number of the house in which that person resides as reflected by the above mentioned sketch map.

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

GEORGE ABRAMS	80	WALTER GRANT *	71
WILLIE ALLEN	70	RALPH GRIMM	49
VIOLA BARKIN	15	LEBBI GUMSBY	113
LLOYD BARTON	131	LEVY GUYTON	110
JOHNNY BELL *	29	LEONARD L. HAMPTON	13
SAM BIRD *	115	WILLIE HARRIS	55
CHARLIE BLANE	17	IKE HATFIELD	4
ELIZABETH BLANE	2	IKE HATFIELD	63
EUGENE BLANE	88	E. K. HAYNES	69
LOUISE BLANE	88	OBIE HAZE	42
TEMPLE BLANE	17	JAMES HESTER *	20
HEZKIE BRITT	66	<del>HEZKIE</del> HIGHSMITH	124
J. C. BRITT	121	JERRY JAMES	66
ROBERT BRITT	94	JOHN HENRY JAMES	79
ZEKE BRITT	65	WILLIE JAMES	41
CLEVE BROTHERS	37	WILLIE JAMES, JR.	117
FRED BROWN	98	CLINTON JEFFERSON	56
MRS. HOWARD T. BURNETT *	83	MERIAH JOHNSON	10
HOWARD T. BURNETT *	83	ROBERT JOHNSON	120
ISAAC GRANDELL	102	T. F. JOHNSON	68
MELVIN CLAIR	36	T. J. JOHNSON	67
ARTHUR CLARK	132	WILLIE JOHNSON	134
ROBERT COBBS	108	IRENE JORDEN	74
EFFEN COGER	52	CLARENCE KIDD	97
FLORENCE CUYLER *	77	ISAAC KINDELL	60
FRED CUYLER	27A	MAY KINDELL	60
PAUL CUYLER *	26	ALICE KIRKLAND	130
MATHEW DAUFREY	6	EUGENE LEE	133
COLUMBIA DONNLEY	2	GEORGE LEE	82
ARTHUR FIELDS	12	JOHN HENRY LEE *	82
OSCAR FULLER	129	SHELLY LEWIS	66
CURTIS GILBERT	92	WILL LEWIS	117
LUCILLE GILBERT	92	EUGEN LOWE	46
EZEKA GRANT, JR.	99	JIMMY MALOY	96
JACOB GRANT	107	ERVIN MARTINO	38
JAMES GRANT	128	LUCIUS MARTINO *	34
LOTTIE MAE GRANT	116	MASONIC LODGE	84
MINNIE GRANT	49	REV. FRED MASSEY *	78
ROBERT GRANT	106	M. C. McCLENDON	100
TOM GRANT	50	ALICE McCLOUD	125



RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

56

GEORGE McCLOUD	125	H. J. STRICKLAND	27
ADEL McKENZIE *	90	ROBERT TAYLOR	96
ARTHUR McKENZIE, SR.	89	RUBY LEE TAYLOR	87
ARTHUR McKENZIE, JR. *	89	JAMES THOMAS	108
CHESTER McKENZIE *	90	MARIE THOMAS *	114
SUSAN McRAE	16	HERMAN TRAVIS	59
JOE MIMS	48	MERITA TRAVIS *	77
COLEMAN MITCHELL	64	REBECCA TRAVIS	60
JAMES MITCHELL	64	GRANDALL JEFFERSON WARREN*	22
REV. JOHN M. MITCHELL *	64	JOE WARREN *	23
MANZEL MITCHELL *	73	O. K. WASHINGTON *	91
ROBERT MITCHELL *	33	CICERO WEST	1
WILLIAM MOODY	51	H. G. WEST	35
CHARLES MOSLEY	45	GAP WILLIAMS	118
JESSIE B. MOSLEY	47	FLORA WILLIAMS	130
VIOLA NEAL	77	JOHN T. WOODS	30
WILLIE NICHOLS	115	REUBEN (PRETTY) WOOTEN	115
		Juke Joint	
GENEVA PETERS	85A	JACK WYNN	39
DOUGLAS PETERS	123	CHURCH	54
RUNETT PIERCE	109	CHURCH	73A
EDDIE PIPKIN	10A	CHURCH	75
ELNORA PLUMBER	2	CHURCH	85
SKELLY POSEY	37	STORE (HERMAN TRAVIS)	58
PETER PRIMER	40	STORE (WALTER GRANT)	72
ELLA MAE RAINS	86	STORE	73
MAYO RAINS	86	STORE	81
ALEX REED *	44	STORE (HOWARD T. BURNETT)	83
NATHANIEL ROACH	110	WOOTEN'S JUKE JOINT	115
RUSSELL ROBINSON	95	VACANT	3
WILLIE ROBINSON	6	VACANT	8
WILBUR P. RODWELL	53	VACANT	9
SAM ROSS	5	VACANT	14
GERALDINE ROZIER	60	VACANT	19
EUGENE SAWYER	103	VACANT	21
PAT SAWYER	112	VACANT	24
WILL SAWYER	103	VACANT	25
EUGENE SRIGLER	32	VACANT	28
F. S. SEIGLER	102	VACANT	61
F. S. SEIGLER, JR.	102	VACANT	62
JENNIE SEIGLER	31	VACANT	76
LEE SEIGLER	43	VACANT	93
HAZEL SHELTON *	126	VACANT	104
EARNEST SILEY	11	VACANT	105
RANDOLF SLOAN	18	VACANT	111
JULE SMITH	127	VACANT	119
LONNIE SMITH	122	T. J. SMITH	134

CPA/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

V. INVESTIGATION OF TERRORIST INCIDENT, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents CLYDE P. ADERHOLD and [REDACTED] on March 3, 4 and 5, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: Ascertain identity of persons who placed explosive in rear of the Creamette, 212 South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando, in view of the possibility these persons might have been connected with the bombing of the MOORE home at Mims, December 25, 1951.

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Chief of Detectives CARL RODENBAUGH, Orlando Police Department, made available the police reports concerning the investigation of the explosion in the rear of the Creamette at Orlando. These reports reflect that the Orlando Police Department received a telephone call at 1:25 A.M.; November 1, 1951, which advised them there had been an explosion at the Creamette located on South Orange Blossom Trail. Detectives REYNOLDS and BROWN went to the scene and determined that the rear end of the building which housed the Creamette had been blown out by some unknown explosive. The report of REYNOLDS and BROWN reflected they noticed a strong smell of powder and that the building was constructed of concrete block. They determined one of the blocks in this building had been blown 246 feet.

The police reports reflected that Detectives PRITCHARD and CHEWNING took over the investigation at the Creamette at 7:00 A.M., November 1, 1951. These two detectives reported they noticed a strong odor of powder when they arrived at the Creamette. PRITCHARD and CHEWNING interviewed FRANK MARLO who operated a frozen custard stand directly across the street from the Creamette at that time. MARLO told the two detectives he recalled some white man had visited him about twelve days before the explosion and had suggested to him that he install another service window for negroes at his place of business. MARLO told this man he would think the matter over. According to the report of PRITCHARD and CHEWNING, this was the same individual who had contacted EDWIN GOFF and suggested he also install an extra window for the use of negroes at the Creamette.

CPA/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

PRITCHARD and CHEWNING interviewed JERRY AHIK, an employee of the Creamette, and AHIK told them this man who had talked to GOFF and then gone over to Marlo's Frozen Custard Stand, had also gone over and talked to BILL JAMES, owner of James' Service Station on South Orange Blossom Trail.

They interviewed BILL JAMES who stated he could not remember talking to the man who had visited the Creamette and Marlo's Frozen Custard Stand.

These two detectives secured soil samples at the scene of the explosion, some cardboard boxes that had been in the explosion and some fuse and forwarded all these items to the FBI Laboratory on November 2, 1951.

The files of the Orlando Police Department reflected an FBI Laboratory report dated November 16, 1951, which is quoted as follows:

"Re: UNSUB, Explosion, Orlando, Florida

FBI file 95-42521

Lab. file No. PC-31457 AR

Specimen Q1--pill box containing debris collected at scene of explosion (No. 1)

Q2--pieces of cardboard carton (No. 2)

Q3--pieces of fuse (No. 3)

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

The two pieces of fuse submitted and listed above as Q3 upon examination were found to measure approximately 32" in length. These two pieces of burned fuse were taped together with pieces of electrician's tape. Specimen Q3 was found to be most similar to safety fuse manufactured by the Ensign Bickford Company, Simsbury, Connecticut, and sold under the trade name "Orange Wax Clover".

"No residues of value were found in Q1 or in Q2 that permit the determination of the type or amount of explosive used."

The FBI Laboratory suggested the Orlando Police Department submit detailed photographs showing the scene of the explosion, particularly those taken of the area where it was believed the explosion originated.

GPA/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

The files of the Orlando Police Department reflected that photographs as suggested were taken of the area; however, there is no correspondence they were forwarded to the Laboratory. These photographs are available at the Orlando Police Department.

FRANK MARLO, operator of FRANK's Place, U. S. Highways 17-92, Maitland, Florida, advised he sold his frozen custard stand on South Orange Blossom Trail during the first part of December, 1951. He said he remembered that the same person who had warned EDWIN GOFF to put in an extra window for the use of negroes at the Creamette also came over to the frozen custard stand. MARLO said he was very busy at the time this man came over and he did not pay particular attention to him. He said the man called him outside the stand and told him he should get another window for the use of negroes. MARLO stated he told this individual he would think about it. He said the person was only around his stand about five minutes and he gave the following description of this person:

Age	45
Height	5'8"
Weight	approximately 180
Hair	blonde
Build	stocky
Clothing	wore grey pants and sport shirt

MARLO also advised at the time of this man's visit to the frozen custard stand his clerk, MAE PEAHEY, also observed this individual. He said MAE PEAHEY is presently working at the Rulon Bottling Company, South Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando.

MAE PEAHEY who resides on South Main Street, Winter Garden, and is presently employed at the Rulon Bottling Company, advised she recalled a man who came to the stand and asked Mr. MARLO to install another service window. She furnished the following description of this individual:

Age	45-50
Height	5'8-10"
Weight	190
Hair	full head, blonde
Build	short and stocky
Clothing	pants and sport shirt

CPA/PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

Miss PEAVEY said she thought she would recognize this individual if she saw him again.

The following photographs were exhibited to EDWIN GOFF, manager of the Creamette, JERRY AHIK, clerk at the Creamette, FRANK MARLO, former owner of the Marlo's Frozen Custard Stand and MAE PEAVEY, former employee of the custard stand. None of these persons identified any of the pictures.

FRANK SMALLBONE  
SMITH MANNING  
THOMAS RICE  
EDGAR BROOKLYN  
W. B. GODING  
ROY C. RAMSEY  
EMORY BRANTLEY  
HORACE DUDLEY  
F. E. JACKSON  
S. C. WILLIAMS

~~J. L. DAVIS~~  
EMMETT HART  
WILLIAM S. LEE  
R. G. HOWELL  
EARL BROOKLYN  
A. E. SCHMITT  
ELI THOMPSON  
ROBERT L. JUDAH  
ADIS JERNIGAN  
JAMES B. JOHNSON

JAMES BRANTLEY  
M. E. WADE  
KEMP MASK  
ERVIN FIEDLER  
PHILIP S. HUGGINS  
EZRUM ISOM  
TILLMAN H. BELVIN  
PAT HALL  
ARTHUR JOHNSON  
ROY GUDGER

PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent  on February 11, 1952, at St. Petersburg, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: F. A. DUNN interviewed inasmuch as both he and victim HARRY T. MOORE were officers in the Florida Branches of the NAACP and Progressive Voters League.

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F. A. DUNN, 437 11th Street, North, agent for the Central Life Insurance Company, advised that until November, 1951 he was president of the Progressive Voters League as well as an officer in the local branch of the NAACP. He is presently executive secretary of the Progressive Voters League as well as actively engaged in the work of the NAACP.

He said he first met MOORE during 1937 or 1938 when they were fairly close friends in business as well as socially.

He said he believed MOORE's close friends at St. Petersburg were J. A. WHITEHURST, 1324 5th Avenue, South, an insurance man, and G. A. ALLEN, 851 31st Street, South, a retired postal employee.

In addition, DUNN advised MOORE was considered a close friend of E. K. BASS, an undertaker at Live Oak, Florida.

He described MOORE as having been an outstanding citizen of excellent reputation whose veracity and integrity were unquestionable and a man who stood by his convictions but could not in any way be termed a radical.

He said MOORE was the type of person who would not confide in friends concerning matters of a personal nature and therefore DUNN did not believe MOORE in the event he had identifiable enemies, would have mentioned same to friends or to anyone else.

DUNN advised that CALVIN ADAMS, a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times, had told him recently that sometime prior to MOORE's death MOORE told ADAMS he had received several threatening letters.

PIS:egh  
MM 44-270

DUNN said he did not mention this previously as he did not consider CALVIN ADAMS as a reliable source of information.

He added the last time he saw MOORE at St. Petersburg was during September, 1951; however, he advised he did see MOORE at a meeting of the Progressive Voters League in Daytona Beach during November, 1951 during which time MOORE did not appear to be apprehensive, worried or nervous; nor did he mention that any threats had been made against his life.

He knew of no dissension between MOORE and others in the NAACP with the exception of the usual verbal arguments which occur in all organizations. DUNN advised he did not think anything of these arguments of members of the NAACP with MOORE and did not think they were serious enough to warrant anyone holding a grudge against MOORE or incurring their enmity.

DUNN said he had no idea who bombed MOORE's home but speculated it might have been caused by local politics in the Mims area where MOORE was known to be politically active; however, he had no known facts on which to base this belief and could furnish no further information. He said he had no knowledge of any person, group or organization which might have killed the victims.

PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on February 22, 1952, at St. Petersburg, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: CALVIN ADAMS interviewed inasmuch as F. A. DUNN stated ADAMS had knowledge that MOORE prior to his death had received some threatening letters.

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CALVIN ADAMS, 1209 Upton Court, South, a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times, formerly a reporter for the Jacksonville Courier, Jacksonville, Florida, advised he met HARRY T. MOORE sometime during 1946 in connection with a meeting of the Progressive Voters League Board of Directors of which he and MOORE were members.

He stated he had met MOORE's wife, HARRIETT, and his daughter whose name he does not recall who is a teacher at the Ocala negro high school; however, he did not know them well.

ADAMS advised he believed MOORE's closest friends were the following:

Miss ETHEL WHITE, 613 West Ashley Street, Jacksonville, a negro civic leader who operates the Clara White Mission.

F. A. DUNN, 437 11th Street, North, St. Petersburg, agent for the Central Life Insurance Company, and connected with the NAACP and Progressive Voters League.

A. J. POLK, 1224 5th Avenue, South, St. Petersburg, principal of the Gibbs High School, an active member of the NAACP.

Miss D. B. McLIN, teacher, Gibbs High School, St. Petersburg, who is active in the youth department of the NAACP.

Rev. E. D. DAVIS, pastor, Second Baptist Church, St. Petersburg.



PLS:egh  
MM 44-270

According to ADAMS, MOORE's reputation in the NAACP was excellent and he knew of no enemies he might have had.

He advised when MOORE visited St. Petersburg during late November or early December, 1951, MOORE told him he had received some threatening letters. He said at that time MOORE was visiting St. Petersburg for a few days in connection with increasing the membership of the local NAACP chapter. In that MOORE had originally taken an active part in the defense of the Groveland case, ADAMS asked MOORE if these threatening letters had anything to do with the Groveland case and MOORE replied the letters pertained to the Groveland case as well as other matters. However, MOORE did not say what these matters concerned. He did not describe the contents of these letters, dates sent, places from which sent or the identity of the senders.

ADAMS stated MOORE seemed to view the letters lightly, did not desire to discuss them and did not appear to be nervous or apprehensive. He said MOORE, without elaborating on the letters, dismissed them by saying he was not worried, that a man of his position holding his type of job often receives letters and therefore he did not pay any attention to them and did not report them to the authorities.

ADAMS could furnish no further information concerning the letters and said he had no idea who could have written them.

He said MOORE never mentioned having any enemies and ADAMS knows of no one who would be considered an enemy of MOORE nor did MOORE have any known moral, financial or political difficulties.

He could furnish no further information which would have any bearing on this case.

RTN/RES:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ and [REDACTED] on February 22, 1952, at Mims, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: ARTHUR and ADEL MCKENZIE and OLEATHA ADAMS reportedly told other residents of Mims they saw the Brevard County Patrol car of EARL T. "TRIGGER" GRIGGS in front of victim MOORE's home the night of the bombing.

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ADEL MCKENZIE stated he, his nephew ARTHUR, his ex-wife OLEATHA ADAMS and his former mother-in-law, Mrs. MARIE THOMAS, had taken a trip to Daytona Beach the afternoon of December 25, 1951. Mrs. THOMAS and ARTHUR remained at Mrs. THOMAS' sister's house while he and OLEATHA went to a local bar where they did considerable drinking. He said that they all had dinner at Mrs. THOMAS' sister's home and then he and OLEATHA returned to the bar and had some more to drink. He stated they returned to Mims and although his memory was fogged by the amount of drink he had had he believed they got there about 11:00 P.M., at which time they dropped Mrs. THOMAS off at her home and the rest went to Titusville. There he and OLEATHA purchased a pint of liquor and consumed same in the automobile. ADEL stated they stayed in Titusville about one hour and returned to Mims via the Old Dixie Highway which runs in front of victim MOORE's home. He stated they took this route because they did not want to get picked up on the main highway for having liquor in the car.

He stated he saw nothing on this return trip and continually emphasized that he was drunk and that OLEATHA was drunk. According to ADEL, ARTHUR had had nothing to drink. He repeatedly denied having told anyone that he had observed TRIGGER GRIGGS's car in the grove in front of victim MOORE's house and stated he had not heard OLEATHA tell anyone she had seen the car there. He also stated OLEATHA had remained in Mims until the Wednesday after the first of the year, or January 2, 1952, at which time she returned to her home in Slaton, Texas.

RTN/RES:egh  
MM 44-270

The discrepancies between the story told by ADEL on reinterview and his original statements were pointed out to him. He steadfastly maintained that the sequence of events given by him on reinterview on February 22, 1952, were the absolute truth.

In this connection it should be noted that ARTHUR MCKENZIE who was driving the car has stated that at no time on the night of instant bombing were they on the Old Dixie Highway, that they went down to and returned from Titusville on the new highway. ARTHUR has also denied seeing GRIGGS' car or any other car parked in the grove in front of MOORE's house.

In connection with this incident, BEN WARREN of Titusville stated to Agents on February 23, 1952, that he had heard a rumor that TRIGGER GRIGGS' car had been seen in front of victim's house before the bombing but he did not know who saw it there. He also stated he had heard that whoever saw the car had been warned by persons unknown to him to keep their mouths shut or they would be in trouble. WARREN was unable to recall the source of this information but stated it was a matter of talk in and around Titusville.

The radio log for the Brevard County Sheriff's and Police Radio Station KIB675, Brevard County, Titusville, Florida reflected that Car 304 belonging to EARL K. GRIGGS had gone out of service at 9:13 P.M. on the night of instant bombing. At 10:45 P.M. it is noted GRIGGS' car went out of service at the Sheriff's Office. The next notation in reference to GRIGGS' car was at 11:48 P.M. when he reported in service again.

The arrest blotter of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office reflects GRIGGS arrested one JAMES LEWIS CLIBORNE for reckless driving in a stolen automobile. No time of arrest was indicated. CLIBORNE's FBI number is 502667A.

Sheriff H. T. WILLIAMS, Brevard County, stated it was his recollection that CLIBORNE was wanted on a stolen car charge in West Palm Beach and had been sent there for trial. He believed that he ultimately received a sentence of one year and one day. He supposedly at this time is serving that time in the Florida State Prison at Raiford, Florida.

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on February 14, 1952, at Altamonte Springs, Florida.

b6  
b7c

BASIS: Ascertain if RALEIGH MCKENZIE, brother of ADEL MCKENZIE and uncle of ARTHUR MCKENZIE, Jr., could furnish any information regarding ADEL and ARTHUR seeing an automobile in the grove in front of victim MOORE's house on December 25, 1951.

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RALEIGH MCKENZIE, P.O. Box 209, advised he knew nothing of his brother ADEL or his nephew ARTHUR, JR. seeing any automobile in front of HARRY MOORE's house the night of instant bombing. He stated he had never heard ADEL or any of his brothers mention this incident. He said he has four brothers which include ADEL, EDWARD, ARTHUR and CHESTER. He and EDWARD live together at Altamonte Springs while ARTHUR, CHESTER and ADEL live at Mims. He advised he seldom travels to Mims or visits the family and therefore gets little information regarding activities in and around Mims. MCKENZIE stated he knew HARRY MOORE well and that he recalled speaking to him in June, 1951. MOORE stopped on the highway and talked to him near Altamonte Springs. He does not recall the topic of conversation and did not recall MOORE mentioning anything regarding the Groveland case or anything about the NAACP. It was merely a short, general conversation.

He stated altogether he had known HARRY MOORE twentyfive years and had known HARRIETT MOORE since about 1917. He stated their deaths came as a shock to him, that he knew no one who would do such a thing nor did he know what might have caused anyone to take their lives.

DBB:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent DANIEL B. BRYAN, JR. on March 4, 1952, at Raiford, Florida.

BASIS: ARTHUR and ADEL MCKENZIE and OLEATHA ADAMS reportedly told other residents of Mims they saw the Brevard County Patrol car of EARL T. "TRIGGER" GRIGGS in front of MOORE's home the night of the bombing.

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JAMES LEWIS CLIBORNE, Florida State Prisoner #49300, advised he left West Palm Beach, Florida, about 6:30 P.M. on Christmas day, 1951, driving a Ford convertible which he had stolen in West Palm Beach three weeks earlier.

He related that he travelled north from West Palm Beach, and on the outskirts of the city he picked up two hitchhikers dressed in civilian clothes and a short distance away picked up two more hitchhikers, a soldier stationed at Charleston, South Carolina, and a sailor stationed at Norfolk, Virginia. CLIBORNE said he did not know the identity of any of the four hitchhikers nor their addresses.

According to CLIBORNE, he was driving around eighty or ninety miles an hour when he passed north of Titusville, Florida, and noticed a car that appeared to be following him. He stated it was foggy and he slowed to sixty miles an hour but the vehicle following made no attempt to overtake the Ford he was driving but stayed behind him. He related that he accelerated his car again and was stopped by Brevard County Patrolman EARL GRIGGS just as he entered the city limits of Daytona Beach, Florida, about 8:30 or 9:00 P.M. CLIBORNE said he had no watch on his person but that the Ford he was driving had a panel clock that was working.

GRIGGS told CLIBORNE he had been following the car from Titusville and was charging him with speeding and that he could post \$35.00 bond and proceed if he desired. CLIBORNE said he did not have any money and they talked with GRIGGS by the road about half an hour; then he was returned to Titusville and rode with GRIGGS in the patrol car and

DBB:egh  
MM 44-270

the sailor drove the Ford behind the patrol car which was occupied by the other hitchhikers. They did not stop on the way back to Titusville and arrived at the county jail about 10:30 P.M. or later. He advised that upon arrival at the jail the four hitchhikers were released and GRIGGS telephoned CLYDE BATES, the jailer, that he was placing CLIBORNE in jail. CLIBORNE said an old man, assistant jailer, was on duty at the time. His identity was unknown to CLIBORNE.

CLIBORNE stated that GRIGGS did not shake him down but asked him what he had on his person and CLIBORNE gave GRIGGS his Virginia operator's license and a key to a hotel room. According to CLIBORNE, GRIGGS then went upstairs in the jail with CLIBORNE and the assistant jailer and CLIBORNE was placed in a cell; GRIGGS then left the jail and one of the men in another cell, identity unknown, stated it was either 11:00 or 11:30 P.M. CLIBORNE said he thought it was 11:30 or later when GRIGGS left the jail.

RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ and [REDACTED] on February 15, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

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BASIS: Ascertain if ALEX AKERMAN defense attorney in the Groveland case could furnish information regarding activities of MOORE or threats to MOORE as a result of the Groveland case.

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ALEX AKERMAN was interviewed in his room at the San Juan Hotel, at which time he stated he has known victim MOORE since 1945. The first occasion of their meeting was regarding an incident involving a negro Marine who had returned from the war and gotten into trouble with a deputy sheriff at which time the negro disarmed the deputy and was supposed to have beaten him. MOORE came to AKERMAN and asked him to see the Marine got a fair trial.

AKERMAN again met MOORE while serving on a committee that was seeking to have negroes enrolled at the University of Florida. On this occasion ACKERMAN stated MOORE was not very active other than to supply information to the committee in an effort to build up the case which was to have negroes allowed to study at the University of Florida.

According to AKERMAN, HARRY MOORE was quite active in making inquiries into the Groveland case; however, at no time did MOORE report to, speak to or assist AKERMAN in the defense of SHEPHERD and IRVIN. He stated he may have submitted reports to the NAACP headquarters in New York and some of the information was probably channeled to AKERMAN for the defense. However, he denied MOORE ever submitted any evidence or statements to him directly in regard to the Groveland case. He went on to say that the only time he saw MOORE actually participate in any activity in regard to that case was when MOORE went to the SHEPHERD family and informed them they could recover their son's body and arrange for a funeral.

RTW:egh  
MM 44-270

He stated he knew of the Daytona Beach meeting of the NAACP and that MOORE's job was discontinued because of lack of funds. He advised MOORE was not fired or let out of his job but it was merely the closing of the job because of lack of funds to pay him.

AKERMAN stated he believed MOORE was killed because of his being a representative of the NAACP. He felt someone killed MOORE, not for anything he said or did as an individual, but because he was a symbol of the effort of the negroes in the state of Florida. He said he would not have been surprised if Sheriff McCALL or someone connected with him killed MOORE. He advised he had no proof or anything to substantiate this statement but that it was merely his opinion. He knew of no threats to MOORE and was shocked to learn of MOORE's death. He would not have been surprised if ED DAVIS, one of the negro leaders of Ocala, had been killed because DAVIS was very outspoken on negro rights, while MOORE was not the aggressive type but was quiet and mannerly.



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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ and [redacted] on February 19, 20, 23, 26, 27, 1952, at Titusville and Mims, Florida.

BASIS: THOMAS LEE JOHNSON stated [redacted] was reportedly trying to sell a pair of shoes shortly after the bombing, which shoes allegedly fit the track marks found leading away from victim MOORE's house the night of the bombing.

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THOMAS LEE JOHNSON, 712 Union Street, Titusville, stated he had heard rumors to the effect that [redacted] was trying to sell a pair of shoes which allegedly fit the track marks leading away from victim MOORE's house and found the night of the bombing. According to JOHNSON, he had been offered \$10.00 for the shoes by someone in Mims but [redacted] had refused this offer, saying he would take less for them somewhere outside Mims. JOHNSON noted [redacted] is at the present time in Syracuse, New York, reportedly employed by [redacted]. It will be noted [redacted] has been identified previously as the owner of the colored juke joint located in the colored quarters in Mims. This juke joint is being operated by his [redacted] SAM BIRD. [redacted] has been identified also as a gambler in Mims.

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JOHNSON stated this information had come to him from JERRY EDWARDS, colored resident of Titusville. According to the information given JOHNSON by EDWARDS, EDWARDS was in the company of [redacted] at the time he tried to sell the shoes.

GRANDALL WARREN, Mims, stated he had heard the rumor concerning [redacted] attempts to sell a pair of shoes but stated he was unable to furnish the source of these rumors. WARREN stated that to the best of his knowledge [redacted] address is [redacted], Syracuse, New York, and that he is employed by [redacted].

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At the time BEN WARREN was interviewed on February 23, 1952, he, too, stated he had heard the rumor concerning [redacted] attempts to sell a pair of shoes. He also stated he had heard that [redacted] on the night of the bombing was supposed to have been at the Club Eaton located approximately three miles outside Orlando between Sanford and Orlando on the Sanford-Orlando Highway. This club is operated by a person named STROMAN. BEN WARREN stated the information he had received was to the effect [redacted] had appeared at the club wearing light colored trousers which were wet, or damp, up to his knees. He stated some unknown girl asked [redacted] about his wet trousers. BEN WARREN stated he did not know what [redacted] replied. It was either that night or very shortly thereafter that [redacted] attempted to sell his shoes. WARREN stated he had heard that shortly after the bombing Sheriff WILLIAMS had appeared at [redacted] residence in Mims trying to find [redacted] was not there but his wife broke into tears and wanted to know why the sheriff wanted her husband.

JERRY EDWARDS, South Street and Palm Avenue, Titusville, Florida, stated on February 23, 1952, that he had been in the company of [redacted] and several other persons just outside the juke joint owned by [redacted] on about the second day after instant bombing. At that time [redacted] attempted to sell a pair of black shoes, saying he had just bought them for \$14.00 and that he was short on money and wanted to sell them. He offered the shoes to SAM BIRD, [redacted] and operator of the juke joint. BIRD tried on the shoes which EDWARDS believes were size eight or nine. He offered [redacted] \$10.00 for them but [redacted] turned down this offer saying he could not afford to sell them for that. EDWARDS later asked BIRD if he bought the shoes and BIRD stated that [redacted] refused to sell them. EDWARDS' suspicions were aroused when [redacted] refused to take \$10.00 for the shoes when he had said he needed money. His suspicions were further aroused when [redacted] stated he owned 14 pairs of shoes. EDWARDS described the shoes as black smooth calf with pointed toes. He stated the point tapered to either one or three-fourths inch. They had only been worn three or four times. He could not recall the make but thought they were Stacy Adams.

He stated he had no other reason to suspect [redacted] of having been involved in any way with the bombing of the MOORE residence except that it seemed to him that [redacted] was trying to get rid of the shoes. He did not learn whether [redacted] disposed of the shoes.

RTN/RES:egh  
MM 44-270

EDWARDS stated he did not know where [ ] was on the night of December 25, 1951, but believed one CLOWTE BAKER who resides in Titusville on Palm Street one block south of South Street in the second house on the east side of the street could furnish this information. He stated BAKER is a frequent gambling companion of [ ]

He also noted that [ ] AMANDA SIMMONS, lives in the third house on the east side of the street, next door to BAKER. He doubted that AMANDA SIMMONS would be able to furnish any information inasmuch as [ ] wife was with him over the Christmas holidays.

In this connection it will be noted that previous investigation has developed that [ ] was in the Mims area only for the Christmas and New Year holidays and returned to his employment in Syracuse shortly after the first of the year.

SAM BIRD, manager of the juke joint owned by [ ] in the colored quarters at Mims, was interviewed and stated the shoes which [ ] tried to sell him were size nine, had a plain cap with a long narrow toe. According to BIRD, [ ] has two or three pairs of these shoes and decided to sell one pair in order to raise a little money. BIRD stated he jokingly offered [ ] \$10.00 for the shoes to test him out but [ ] wanted \$14.00 for the shoes and refused the \$10.00 offer. He also stated [ ] was in the company of WILLIE NICHOLS who resides above the juke joint and CHESTER MCKENZIE, brother of ADEL MCKENZIE, previously identified, of Mims.

WILLIE NICHOLS advised that he, [ ] MCKENZIE and an unknown girl who resides in Titusville were together the afternoon and night of December 25, 1951. NICHOLS stated they left the Mims-Titusville area late in the morning on Christmas day and drove to Sanford, Florida, where they stopped and talked to a few friends of [ ] He stated he was not acquainted with these persons, explaining he had only been in Mims for a few months, having formerly resided in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He stated they ate lunch in a restaurant in Sanford and some time later in the afternoon they left Sanford, proceeding to Winter Garden, Florida. Upon arriving at Winter Garden they proceeded to the home of one WILLIE MAE (INU), a girl of [ ] acquaintance. They arrived there approximately 8:30 or 9:00 P.M. They spent the entire evening at WILLIE MAE's house gambling. He stated the game broke up very late, approximately 3:00 A.M. December 26, 1951. Inasmuch as it was such a long drive back to Mims they all stayed at WILLIE MAE's overnight, driving back via

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MM 44-270

Sanford to Mims sometime during December 26. He stated they first heard about the bombing of MOORE's house after reaching Sanford and upon arriving at Mims went directly to the bombed house to view the wreckage.

CHESTER MCKENZIE advised he, NICHOLS, [redacted] and a girl whose first name is EVA and who resides in Titusville, but whose last name he does not know, all went to Sanford, leaving Titusville about 7:00 or 8:00 P.M. They ate supper at Sanford at Pee Wee's Place. There they got a few drinks and later went to an unknown bar located across the street from the Zanzibar in Sanford. He stated they all left Sanford for Winter Garden about 9:30 or 10:00 P.M. Upon arriving there they went directly to the home of WILLIE MAE where they gambled and spent the entire night. MCKENZIE stated he does not know WILLIE MAE's last name or her address but stated she is well known in Winter Garden.

In connection with the information furnished by BEN WARREN both MCKENZIE and NICHOLS stated they did not go to the Club Eaton Christmas night. MCKENZIE stated [redacted] had told him he had been to the Club Eaton the previous Sunday night.

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Sheriff H. T. WILLIAMS was interviewed concerning the allegations made by BEN WARREN to the effect [redacted] wife had been very upset at the time Sheriff WILLIAMS was looking for her husband shortly after the bombing. WILLIAMS stated he sought out [redacted] a day or so after the bombing at the request of the FBI. He stated he found [redacted] but was unsuccessful in locating [redacted] himself. He stated [redacted] told him [redacted] had been out gambling for several days and she expected him back shortly. Sheriff WILLIAMS stated [redacted] appeared to be very angry with [redacted] because he had been away so long and that she was not upset at his inquiry and certainly did not cry.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents  
FRED E. GORDON and [REDACTED] on January 23 and February 27, 1952,  
at Oak Hill, Florida.

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BASIS: NANCY CUMMINGS, teacher at Oak Hill colored school, interviewed regarding alleged rumor men were seen walking in the grove in front of MOORE's home on Christmas day.

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NANCY CUMMINGS, teacher at Oak Hill colored school, a cousin of FLORIDA WILSON who is a cousin of victim HARRIETT MOORE, advised she had known MOORE and his wife for many years but that the last contact she had had with them was in June, 1951 on which occasion MOORE had spoken at the colored church in Oak Hill. She said as far as she knew MOORE had no known enemies and had never received any threats.

She said she had not discussed the bombing with any member of the MOORE family and that the rumor regarding one of the victim's daughters seeing men walking in the orange grove surrounding her father's home on Christmas day apparently was hearsay talk which came from some unidentified colored people in Mims.

She said she had visited friends who live several miles north of Mims on Christmas day and that she actually did not at any time on Christmas day get into the town of Mims, nor did she see victim or his wife.

FLORIDA WILSON, cousin of victim HARRIETT MOORE, Oak Hill, Florida, advised she had not seen MOORE or his wife for the past two years, had no information regarding their activities, knew of no threats received by MOORE and knew of no enemies he might have had. She said she had attended the funerals of both HARRY and HARRIETT MOORE and had heard nothing under discussion that would be of benefit to this investigation.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and FRED E. GORDON on January 23 and February 27, 1952, at DeLand, Florida.

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BASIS: SHELLEY DIX, teacher at DeLand colored school, with whom MOORE's daughter spent one night after the bombing, interviewed for information concerning disclosures made by victim's daughter.

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SHELLEY W. DIX, 321 West Walsh, teacher at the DeLand colored school, advised she had known MOORE's daughters, ANNIE ROSALEA and EVANGELINE, for several years and that she had also known MOORE and his wife as previously engaged in teaching in Brevard County. She had no close contact with either of the victims in the last ten years and knew of no threats or past threats or or any enemies MORE or his wife may have had.

She said that after the funeral of HARRIETT MOORE, ANNIE ROSALEA came to DeLand with her and GEORGE SIMMS and his wife and MAE SIMMS of White Plains, New York, to spend the night because they said they could not get any rest in Mims.

She said ANNIE ROSALEA did not discuss the bombing or the death of her father and mother and that she actually had obtained no information which would shed any light on the death of MOORE or his wife.

SHELLEY DIX said she attended the funeral of HARRIETT MOORE and while there she overheard some unknown colored people discussing the fact that MOORE was to have testified at the forthcoming trial of WALTER LEE IRVIN in Marion County.

She could furnish no additional information.

Efforts were made to locate SYLVESTER COGER, 219 East Church Street, Truant Officer for the DeLand colored school, who allegedly had a discussion with victim's daughter while in DeLand but COGER was unavailable for interview on each occasion.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRANK F. MEECH and [REDACTED] on February 4, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

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BASIS: Mrs. MARION FULLER in routine contact at Winter Garden, Florida, advised her husband had recently been threatened by a person calling her husband's office in Orlando stating he was a member of the 3 K's.

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ALLEN M. FULLER, branch manager, Allie Continental Automobile Association, Inc., 718 West Church Street, advised that in his work he comes in contact with negroes and much of his work is performed in the negro sections of Orange County. The Allied Continental Automobile Association was originally a negro automobile club wherein negroes would buy membership which would entitle them to bond in the event they were arrested in an automobile case, an attorney to represent them in court, emergency towing services and other services granted by other automobile clubs.

He related that ARTHUR HENRY HOLLAND was shot while driving a cab in the Winter Garden area and forcibly removed from the cab and beaten on January 12, 1952. Subsequently, the exact date unknown, a telephone call was received at his office by his negro secretary and the caller first asked for him. When advised by the secretary that Mr. FULLER was not in, the caller said he was a representative of the three K's and stated they had decided to take FULLER out and give him a beating, after which the caller hung up. Mr. FULLER stated he did not place any significance in the call and judged it a prank rather than a threat and had no knowledge whatsoever as to who might have made the call.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRED E. GORDON and [redacted] on January 23 and February 27, 1952, at Ormond Beach, Florida.

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BASIS: Previous investigation indicated MOORE investigated a cutting incident at the Tomoko River Jungle involving a colored student from Bethune-Cookman College. ROGERS WILLIS, Chief of Police, who investigated the incident interviewed.

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ROGERS WILLIS, Chief of Police and Constable in that district, advised he had personally investigated the cutting incident involving ROGER PASCHAL at Tomoko River Jungle and that while two white men, NEAL DAVIS and one W.E. HOLT, were believed to have been involved there was never sufficient evidence developed upon which to base any prosecution.

WILLIS said both HOLT and DAVIS were afforded a preliminary hearing before a justice of the peace in the Ormond District and that as a result of the testimony of the victim, PASCHAL, and others both HOLT and DAVIS were discharged. He said that upon the urging of HARRY MOORE he had completely investigated the entire matter and was satisfied that DAVIS and HOLT were involved but that due to the fact PASCHAL was unable to positively identify either at the preliminary hearing they were not held for further prosecution. Despite their discharge by the justice of the peace, WILLIS took the victim and his witnesses before States Attorney MURRAY SAMS in DeLand and again it was decided there was insufficient evidence upon which to base prosecution.

He said as he recalled, HOLT and DAVIS undoubtedly felt the NAACP was pressing the matter but that after PASCHAL left Daytona Beach no more was said about the incident and WILLIS believed PASCHAL was not interested in any further prosecution.



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MM 44-270

WILLIS said the cutting of PASCHAL was precipitated by the fact a carload of negroes had driven out to the Tomoko River Jungle and apparently had attempted to do a little sight-seeing when someone came up behind PASCHAL and cut him on the neck.

With regard to the MOORE bombing WILLIS said he had talked to many of the local residents of Volusia County and that these individuals strongly discounted any Klan involvement and all suspected that the killing was Communist inspired in order to create unrest and destroy the United States in the eyes of the world.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and FRED E. GORDON on January 3; and February 27, 1952, at Daytona Beach, Florida.

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BASIS: Rev. MASSEY, pastor, Methodist Church, Mims, interviewed for information concerning a speech made by MOORE at church prior to Christmas, Sunday, December 23, 1951, where according to some colored residents of Mims "MOORE preached his own funeral".

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Rev. JAMES H. MASSEY, 833 Cypress Street, Daytona Beach, pastor of the Methodist Churches at Daytona Beach, New Smyrna, Mims, Melbourne and Cocoa, Florida, advised that HARRY T. MOORE was not a member of the Methodist Church but was in fact a Baptist. However, he did attend the Methodist Church in Mims on rare occasions.

MASSEY recalled MOORE attended church on a Sunday prior to Christmas, 1951, and he has a vivid recollection of a short speech MOORE made that day. He stated the sum and substance of his talk was that church members should contribute more regularly to the collection.

He said this rumor about MOORE preaching his own funeral on the Sunday prior to the bombing incident was untrue and that from his observation and contacts with the colored people in Mims and all Brevard County, he did not believe any of them knew just what had happened or what was behind the bombing.

Rev. MASSEY said he had no definite information regarding the bombing but promised his cooperation in the event any information came to his attention.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on January 28 and February 27, 1952, at Daytona Beach, Florida.

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BASIS: WILLIAM DUBOSE, registrar, Bethune-Cookman College, furnished the following information concerning MOORE's political activities.

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WILLIAM DUBOSE, registrar, Bethune-Cookman College, volunteered the information while being interviewed concerning another matter that he had attended the Daytona Beach meeting of the NAACP in November, 1951 and that at one of the meetings MOORE talked of politics almost exclusively and DUBOSE said the gist of MOORE's talk about coming state political races for various county and state officers had clearly indicated that those seeking political offices who had gone along with the NAACP would be supported by MOORE and the NAACP and the colored vote MOORE had controlled but that those who had given the NAACP lip service only would be defeated.

He said it was not possible for him to recall any of the details concerning MOORE's statements and it was his recollection MOORE was merely speaking in generalities and did not mention any specific person.

DUBOSE suggested that possibly a write-up concerning MOORE's speech might have been made by some member of the NAACP and might be contained in the NAACP files but he was unable to state where specifically he thought such a report would be kept or in whose custody.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents  
[redacted] on February 27, 1952, at Or-  
lando, Florida.

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BASIS: CARL RODENBAUGH, Chief of Detectives, Orlando Police Department, advised he had heard that one FLORENCE E. HOBBS, operator of Orlando Shoe Hospital, had made statements that he, HOBBS, had handled dynamite and HOBBS had found a portion of a fuse at the Creamette following the November 1, 1951, explosion.

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FLORENCE E. HOBBS, Orlando Shoe Hospital, 344 West Church Street, advised that on the morning following the explosion at the Creamette he went around to the Creamette out of curiosity. He stated while he was looking at the damage he found a two foot length of dynamite fuse which had been made by taping together two separate fuses. He stated he picked up the fuse some distance from the back of the Creamette where apparently the fuse had been blown by the explosion. He claimed he was interested in the explosion and was of the personal opinion dynamite was used inasmuch as he observed some places that had been discolored. HOBBS stated he turned the fuse over to one of the detectives of the Orlando Police Department.

He stated that when he was approximately eighteen years of age while residing at Cedartown, Georgia, he attended a "couple of meetings" of the Klan there but never joined. He said he has not had any connection whatsoever with the Klan since that time and does not have any information regarding their activities.

In regard to the bombing of the MOORE residence, HOBBS stated he spent Christmas day at his residence with his wife and three children, retired that night and later learned about the bombing from a radio broadcast.

In regard to his knowledge concerning the use of dynamite, during the interview HOBBS stated he was at one time employed at Cedartown,

TEM/PLS:egh  
44-270

Georgia in an iron mine and during that time he became familiar with the use of explosives. In regard to the use of dynamite he stated he is of the opinion that a person would not have to be an expert or have a great amount of training to effectively use dynamite. He said the procedure of inserting a cap into a stick of dynamite and attaching a fuse is not complicated and to effect a large explosion or a forcible one does not require a complicated procedure inasmuch as a bundle of dynamite can be taped together and the fuse and detonator attached to any one of the sticks and thereby cause an explosion. In this regard he stated he could not understand why the person or persons causing the explosion at the Creamette would have taped two fuses together inasmuch as one fuse to one stick of dynamite in a bundle is just as effective as two fuses to two sticks in the bundle. He also stated in his opinion the explosion at the Creamette was done by an amateur inasmuch as the explosive was probably poorly placed and therefore not very effective.

SJL:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent STEPHEN J. LABADIE on February 1 and 4, 1952, at Tampa, Florida.

BASIS: 1951 Florida license 3W-7859 observed on car at funeral of victim HARRY T. MOORE January 1, 1952, at Mims, Florida.

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The Tampa, Florida, Police Department records reflect license 3W-7859 in 1951 was registered to T. F. BURNETT, 410 Third Avenue, Tampa, Florida, for a 1948 Cadillac four-door sedan.

From personal observation and interview on Third Avenue it was ascertained there was no 410 Third Avenue in Tampa. BURNETT has not been located or interviewed and a check of the 1951 City Directory was negative regarding a 410 Third Avenue or T. F. BURNETT.

WJL:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on January 21 and 25 and February 12, 13, 25 and 29, 1952, at Fernandina and Jacksonville, Florida.

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BASIS: 1951 Florida tag 41-973 was reportedly observed on a car in which some of the Civil Rights Congress delegation were riding to Mims, Florida, for the funeral of victim.

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The records of the Auto Tag Agency Tax Collector's Office, Nassau County, Fernandina, Florida, show 1951 license 41-973 was issued to H. J. SCOFIELD, Box 220, Fernandina, for a 1948 Plymouth, Motor Number P15-677881.

H. J. SCOFIELD stated he sold this car to the Murray Pontiac Company in Fernandina in July, 1951. He understood the car was sold through the Jacksonville agency of this company.

Records of the Murray Pontiac Company, 339 West Beaver Street, Jacksonville, reflect this car was sold to HERBERT H. HATCH, 1828 Hubbard Street.

HERBERT H. HATCH stated he owned and was in possession of this car in December, 1951, and January, 1952. He advised the car had never been in Mims and he was only vaguely acquainted through newspaper articles with the circumstances of the deaths of the victims. He knew nothing of the Civil Rights Congress. He added that he had not loaned his car to anyone that might have had the car in Mims, Florida.

SJL:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent STEPHEN J. LABADIE on January 29; February 1, 14 and 20, 1952, at Tampa, Florida.

BASIS: 1951 Florida tag 3-11040 was observed on an automobile attending the funeral of HARRY T. MOORE at Mims, Florida.

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Records of the Tampa Police Department reflect that 1951 Florida tag 3-11040 is registered to GLEN EVINS, 908 Gulf View, Tampa, Florida, for a 1949 Chevrolet four-door sedan.

GLEN EVINS, manager, Lykes Brothers Insurance Agency, advised he did own instant car but has sold it to Locke Motor Company, Tampa, Florida. His records showed the car had motor number CAAL40246.

RADFORD D. LOCKE, owner, Locke Motor Company, 1118 Florida Avenue, advised from a check of his records that on September 5, 1951, his company sold a 1949 Chevrolet four-door sedan, motor number CAA 140246, to WILLIAM FORDHAM, 946 Union Street, Tampa, Florida, who is a colored attorney.

~~WILLIAM FORDHAM~~, attorney, Fordham and Rodriguez, Central Avenue, is the attorney for the NAACP at Tampa and has been previously interviewed in this matter.



SJL:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent STEPHEN J. LABADIE on February 1 and 4, 1952, at Tampa, Florida.

BASIS: 1951 Florida tag 3W-5531 was observed at the funeral of HARRY T. MOORE.

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According to the records of the Tampa, Florida, Police Department, license 1951 Florida 3W-5531 is registered to CHARLIE W. McNEILL, 725 Third Avenue, for a 1949 Lincoln coupe.

Inquiry of JAMES and HARDY LOVETT, 725 Third Avenue, elicited the information that they have resided at this address since 1942. They know of no one named CHARLIE W. McNEILL; no one by that name ever resided at this address and no other family resides at this address. They advised they are not familiar with the name CHARLIE W. McNEILL as anyone who resided in this neighborhood since 1942.

The 1951 Tampa telephone and city directories are negative regarding the name CHARLIE W. McNEILL.

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents JAMES P. SHANNON and FRANK F. MEECH on February 20, 1952, at Sanford, Florida.

BASIS: Confidential Informant T-1 advised that EUGENE BREWER of Sanford could probably give the name of a person who saw a negro's house burned to the ground on Forest City Road. Confidential Informant T-2 advised that EUGENE BREWER of Sanford would be a good man to contact as he believed BREWER would have knowledge concerning the beating of a white man and also the burning of the man's home on Lake Mary near Sanford. Informant said EARL BROOKLYN had relatives in the fishing business in competition to the man and possibly arranged for the beating and burning.

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EUGENE BREWER, Box 7, an employee at the Atlantic Coast Lines Railroad shops in Sanford, who lives out 25th Street, stated he had never heard of an incident in which a negro's house had been burned to the ground on Forest City Road.

He stated he did not know EARL BROOKLYN but had heard there was a family by the name of BROOKLYN on Lake Mary.

When questioned about the allegation that a man had been beaten and his house burned at Lake Mary, BREWER stated the only incident similar to that was one which occurred to a man named LYMAN MYERS who had a home on Lake Jessup. This LYMAN MYERS was stopped on a road between his own home and the home of BREWER's sister, Mrs. THEODORE (NELLIE) JOHNSON, by a group of men who had hit him with a crank handle, took him from his wife, went off to the woods back of Lake Mary and beat him. This occurred probably in 1949, according to BREWER. It was only about a month ago he heard that LYMAN MYERS' house had burned. BREWER claimed he did not believe the Klan was at fault in either the beating or the burning of the house. It was his opinion the lawbreakers who were seining fish out of Lake Jessup and other lakes illegally were responsible for MYERS' troubles.

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MM 44-270

EUGENE BREWER stated he was a member of the Apopka Klavern of the Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan for only about six months starting early in 1950. He was recruited by BILL BOGAR who met him when BOGAR and others came to Sanford to try to organize a Klavern. They were never able to organize this Klavern in Sanford and there is at present no Klan in Sanford. He did not attend the Klan meetings regularly because of his work and he does not believe he ever attended more than six meetings. He never saw more than six persons at a meeting at any time. BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops while he was in the Klan. He quit attending the meetings sometime in the summer of 1950 because there was a lot of friction and quarreling in the meetings, and the Klan was not what he had thought it was.

Just before he stopped attending EDWARD HAYES was made Exalted Cyclops of the Klavern. BREWER claims he had never heard anything of the Winter Garden Klan while he was in the Klan. He further stated he never heard any talk about HARRY T. MOORE while he was in the Klan. He had not heard of MOORE until after he was killed. He knew nothing about Klansmen visiting the Apopka Klavern from the Orlando-Winter Garden area.

The only name mentioned to BREWER that was familiar to him other than EDWARD HAYES and BILL BOGAR was that of PERRY MOORE who was in the Apopka Klavern.

LYMAN MYERS of Route 2, Box 208, who is a commercial fisherman, furnished the following information concerning the beating he received by his enemies and the subsequent burning of his house.

He related that he had a violent argument and split-up with [redacted] in August, 1950. [redacted] owned property adjacent to his. They quarrelled concerning the trespassing of [redacted] cows on the property, and particularly the garden area, of LYMAN MYERS' property. At one time [redacted] came out with a gun, threatening to shoot LYMAN MYERS.

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LYMAN MYERS related that six men stopped him on the road leading to his home, pulled him out of his car, hit him on the head and carried him off to the woods off the Lake Mary Road and stabbed him and beat him with a wide strap. Two cars were involved, one an old black Ford with a broken exhaust and cloth upholstery, and a green or light

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

gray Chevrolet. LYMAN MYERS is certain that [redacted] and other associates who will be named hereinafter who had been engaged in illegal seining of fish from Lake Jessup and surrounding lakes were responsible for his beating. At no time did LYMAN MYERS place any blame on the Klan.

He is positive one [redacted] who is described below is the person who was the ringleader of the group who carried him off and beat him. [redacted] is described as follows:

Age	40-50
Height	5'11"
Weight	150
Hair	blonde
Eyes	wears glasses
Residence	Sanford, Florida

He believes one [redacted] who lives across Lake Jessup from [redacted] is generally the agitator who was responsible with [redacted] for the beating. He described [redacted] as follows:

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Age	38
Height	5'10"
Weight	190-200
Hair	balding on top
Wife	[redacted]

[redacted] accused LYMAN MYERS of shooting his hogs and got out a warrant against him.

SUE DEAL who keeps company with a man by the name of ----- LONG who drives a red top truck and hangs out with [redacted] advised LYMAN that [redacted] usually goes to meetings at Tavares every Wednesday. (Wednesday is the meeting night of the Winter Garden Klan, Association of Georgia Klans).

A ringleader of the group which associates with [redacted] is one [redacted] who is the son of [redacted] who comes from Ocoee and Winter Garden and was in the Klan. [redacted] carries on his watch fob a negro's tooth and brags that the negro was lynched several years ago.

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MM 44-270

Another man in this group is one [redacted] from Orlando who drives a truck and was caught fishing illegally on Lake Ponset and convicted at Cocoa. This [redacted] was also caught illegally fishing on John's Lake with [redacted]. The case is supposed to come up at Tavares, Florida.

LYMAN MYERS stated he has been accused of turning these men in for their illegal fishing on Lake Ponset, which accusation he denies.

He was unable to furnish any accurate or even general description of the five other men involved in his beating in addition to [redacted]. He was of the belief one of the [redacted] boys was the one who hit him over the head with the crank handle. He believes the [redacted] boys who had served time might have been involved in the beating although he could not recognize any of them. One of the [redacted] boys has served time at Raiford for killing a man in a knife fight. It is noted that one of the [redacted] boys owns a Ford with cloth upholstery.

One of the six individuals paid all his attention to Mrs. MYERS at the time of the beating incident. This man who wore a large cowboy hat and had long sideburns held a lighted flashlight in Mrs. MYERS' face, told her not to move from the car and that her husband would be back. One of the men had yelled "Hey, LYMAN!" to get him to stop.

He believed all the persons involved in the beating except one were tall and thin but that one was a short, round-faced young man.

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Shortly before he received his beating LYMAN MYERS had a couple of negroes working in his home. In fact these two negroes were only in the house about two days when he was beaten. One of those who beat him made a statement to the effect that he had eaten with negroes and warned him to move out of his house and get out of that part of the county.

GEORGE FARNUM who now lives on Lake Pickett was a caretaker for LYMAN MYERS while he was away from home. [redacted] accused GEORGE FARNUM of shooting his hogs and with [redacted] went out with guns and beat GEORGE FARNUM. Subsequently LYMAN MYERS obtained a warrant against [redacted] because of this beating.

Sometime in July, 1951 while he and his wife were away, his wife being in Detroit, Michigan, and he on an overnight fishing trip, his house was burned. From information he obtained from witnesses, the fire occurred about 9:00 or 9:15 P.M. He believed his [redacted]

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

and [redacted] and their associates were the persons who were responsible for this house burning.

The following is a description of [redacted]:

Age	38-40
Height	5'6"
Weight	200
Hair	dark brown
Wife	[redacted]
Occupation	fish dealer, Sanford-Orlando Highway, across from the Outdoor MovieLand Theater.

[redacted] who has been around the Apopka area and whose mother lives in Maitland, is a relative of [redacted]

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[redacted] who fishes the inland lakes illegally with [redacted] [redacted] has only been seen from a distance in his truck by LYMAN MYERS and is generally described as:

Height	5'10"
Weight	170

During the course of a routine recontact of Confidential Informant T-1 he was questioned about [redacted] Informant stated he never heard of a [redacted] but did hear of a [redacted] who is alleged to have caused a man in Sanford who was in competition in the fish business with [redacted] to receive a beating. Informant believed the Klan probably had this man beaten. Informant stated [redacted] told him this [redacted] is related to EARL BROOKLYN.

According to the informant, two deputy sheriffs came over from Sanford to Apopka investigating the above beating and saw a deputy sheriff named [redacted] The group of deputies is alleged to have travelled to Winter Garden, possibly to continue the investigation of that beating.

At the time of the recontact with the informant he advised that FRED JOINER was elected secretary of the Southern Knights. He said EDWARD HAYES is presently Exalted Cyclops of the Southern Knights in Apopka, FRED REISNER is treasurer and MELVIN WHITE of Plymouth is head

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

of the Klokann Committee. He described PERRY MOORE as a very active member of the Southern Knights and stated PERRY MOORE is the brother-in-law of another active member, one ----- THOMPSON of Apopka, who was also the brother-in-law of EDWARD HAYES. In connection with PERRY MOORE the informant stated he was one of the officers of the Klan at the time BILL BOGAR was Exalted Cyclops and was probably at the meeting attended by EARL BROOKLYN after which the floor plans of MOORE's house were exhibited. In addition, informant stated MELVIN WHITE and LAWRENCE SMITH were in regular attendance at the approximate time of the above described meeting attended by BROOKLYN.

He furnished the names of the following four individuals as old-time Klansmen, all of Apopka:

Dr. T. E. McBRIDE  
DR. CHARLES H. DAMSEL  
NAP RYAN  
JOHN JACKSON.

It is of interest to note that Dr. CHARLES H. DAMSEL has been identified as the source of information of Confidential Informant T-3, another governmental agency, referred to in previous reports.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRANK F. MEECH and JAMES P. SHANNON on February 17, 1952, at Orlando, Florida.

BASIS: [redacted] interviewed inasmuch as he was [redacted] of the Florida Klan in order to obtain information concerning background of the Klan and terrorist activities in the Orlando area.

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FORREST ALPHONSO KILGORE who resides on Pocket Lake outside Orlando at Post Office Box 1548, formerly executive secretary of the now defunct Florida Klan under LOVIC PIERCE HAGAN, furnished the following information.

He was a charter member of the revived Ku Klux Klan in 1919 and remained as an active member of the Klan through the years until about 1948 or 1949 when he ceased his activity due to the fact he and Captain L. P. HAGAN were forced out of Klan work because of the increasing terrorist activities of various Klansmen to the embarrassment of the Florida Klan.

[redacted] who appeared to be very cooperative was reluctant to volunteer the names of Klansmen, still feeling he was under restraint by reason of his Klan oath, but throughout the interview was willing to make observations and admissions concerning persons mentioned specifically.

The national organization of the Ku Klux Klan was disbanded by the Executive, or Imperial Board at Atlanta in April, 1943, because of the tax suit being brought against the Klan by the United States Government. The Klan as a national organization has been out of hand for eight or ten years because a certain group of individuals in Atlanta were getting all the money out of the Klan for their own use and political advantage.



JPS/FFM:egh

MM 44-270

The discontented members of the Florida Klan pulled out to form Klaverns in the Georgia Klans. Thus he and HAGAN were practically forced out of Klan work.

He believed that WALTON H. BROUGH of Wildwood, formerly an assistant of Captain HAGAN in the Florida Klan who is now the Grand Dragon for the Association of Georgia Klans in Florida, was the leader and spokesman for the radical dissident group of the Florida Klan who contacted Dr. SAMUEL GREEN and started the move into the Association of Georgia Klans.

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About this time Captain HAGAN issued a bulletin or circular instructing the Klans rigidly that the Klans under no circumstances were to use hoods or robes at any time or commit acts of violence. This was the "straw which broke the camel's back" and started the move of the radical members of the Klan to form Klaverns of the Association of Georgia Klans. BROUGH, described by [redacted] as a "goody preaching" kind of person, made a speech in favor of wearing the masks and robes and was kicked out of the Florida Klan.

During the time the Florida Klan in Orlando was operating it arranged for a circuit court in Orlando to issue a charter to it for the Century Club which was to hold title to the clubhouse and other property of the Klan. This clubhouse is on Sherwood Lake on Route 50 which is the road from Orlando west to Winter Garden and is located 5.4 miles west of the city limits of Orlando.

At the time of this split in 1947 or 1948 the radical group which split from the Orlando Florida Klan to operate independently in Winter Garden was allowed to retain, or were left with, the name Fort Gatlin Klan. Those individuals retaining the Florida Klan affiliation took the name of the Cherokee #7, Orlando, and received a charter under that name. Then the Winter Garden group which was still nominally part of the Klan obtained a charter from the state under the name of the West Orange Klan, becoming an independent Klan or organization. Thereafter that same group applied to Dr. SAMUEL GREEN for a charter in the Association of Georgia Klans over the protest of the Florida Klan, and received a charter.

[redacted] does not know whether the Winter Garden outfit retained the name West Orange Klan. He believed that shortly thereafter TILLMAN H. BELVIN, who had never belonged to the Florida Klan at any time,

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

but had been in the old Klan, and seven to eleven others petitioned for and received an Association of Georgia Klans charter for Orlando. Not all the radicals from Winter Garden or Orlando were with the Association of Georgia Klans in Winter Garden or Orlando.

The Association of Georgia Klans at Orlando is supposed to meet out Cheney Highway east of Orlando, five to seven miles beyond the airport in a galvanized iron building with citrus fruit boxes used for seats.

After the above-described split among the Klansmen the Winter Garden group which went into the Association of Georgia Klans virtually took possession of the clubhouse on Sherwood Lake which had also been paid for by funds supplied by persons who remained in the Orlando Florida Klan, the Cherokee #7. He recalled that after this Winter Garden Association of Georgia Klans group put a lock on the clubhouse he had quite an argument with F. E. LOOMIS, the undertaker of Winter Garden, who became unreasonable and very angry during the argument. TILLMAN BEEVIN accompanied LOOMIS at the time this argument took place. Thereafter the Florida Klan Cherokee #7, Orlando, ceased to use the Sherwood Lake clubhouse.

The American Club of the Florida Klan in Apopka pulled out of the Florida Klan as an unit and obtained a Association of Georgia Klans charter, according to his understanding, and PHILLIP HUGGINS was the head of this Klan and at one time BILL BOGAR was the Exalted Cyclops. In response to a specific inquiry [redacted] stated he had never heard of L. H. "POP" SHEPHERD or EMMETT HART.

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About a year after the formation of the Association of Georgia Klans, probably in 1948 or 1949, the executive committee of the Florida Klan passed a resolution to dissolve the organization. [redacted] himself had actually ceased all Klan work and affiliation with the Florida Klan even before this resolution was passed and before the dissolution of the Florida Klan. When he pulled out there were hardly 200 members of the entire Florida Klan in the state. The Cherokee #7 was dissolved at the same time the state Florida Klan was dissolved.

He has never received information from the Association of Georgia Klans in Orlando inasmuch as he is hated and feared by persons in the Georgia Klans who would never tell him anything. Any information he might have he would have to obtain indirectly and from casual remarks dropped by acquaintances.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

It should be noted that [redacted] classified TILLMAN H. BELVIN, EARL BROOKLYN, EDGAR BROOKLYN and CLAUDE YATES as persons affiliated with the Winter Garden radical group although they come from Orlando.

When the name of EARL J. BROOKLYN was mentioned [redacted] remarked "you are on the right track of the renegades". He further advised EARL BROOKLYN and his younger brother, EDGAR, who has only one arm, are boys who mean well but are bloodthirsty, rough and mean and are easily excited and incited into doing almost anything. When asked for specific incidents in which the BROOKLYNS were possibly involved Mr. [redacted] replied he had never heard of anything they were not involved in. He stated there was always suspicion but never any proof along that line. He believed EARL BROOKLYN would be the most logical suspect in any terrorist activities in the Orlando area and that if a person from the Orlando area were guilty of the Mims bombing of the HARRY T. MOORE home, EARL BROOKLYN and his associates would definitely be the persons to investigate.

After a number of names had been presented to him and he had furnished whatever information he had about them, the interviewing Agents requested [redacted] to voluntarily furnish the identity of any other persons who might be guilty of terrorist activities in the Orlando area in the past and particularly those who would be associated with EARL BROOKLYN and his brother, EDGAR BROOKLYN. To this he replied that the BROOKLYNS had a buddy named CLAUDE YATES who is a fisherman in commercial seining and trout fishing who became very angry with Captain HAGAN and himself because they would not go along with any of the rough stuff and terrorist activities believed to be engaged in by BROOKLYN, YATES and the rest. [redacted] does not know where CLAUDE YATES resides and has not seen him in years and is rather certain he is somewhere in the Orlando area. He believes MORGAN HOWARD of Winter Garden, TILLMAN BELVIN and possibly Constable CARL SANDERS would be able to furnish some information as to his whereabouts.

~~CLAUDE YATES~~ was described as follows:

Race	white
Sex	male
Age	50
Height	5'7½"
Weight	165-75
Hair	black

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

When the name EMORY BRANTLEY was mentioned [redacted] remarked he had saved him from going to jail when he got mixed up in the beating of a woman and her young daughter from Apopka, Florida. The woman was accused of running around with a married man. The terrorist group caught the woman and her daughter at Clarcona on the road between Ocoee and Apopka and gave them a beating. That incident broke up the relationship between the groups in the Klan, the rough group in Winter Garden and the officials of the Florida Klan who were trying to keep it as a decent organization. This occurred over four years ago when JAMES BLACK was sheriff of Orange County. Sheriff BLACK and his deputy, GEORGE JUMP, investigated the case to a point where the victim was all set to go out to Winter Garden to identify the terrorists. The woman victim had insisted she would be able to identify the voices of those involved in her beating. [redacted] is certain the woman would have been able to identify EMORY BRANTLEY as being a member of that terrorist group. ALEX SCHMITT, KEMP MASK and WILLARD SMITH were also accused of being members of the terrorist group. However, just as Sheriff BLACK was ready to take the woman victim to Winter Garden to make the identification the Klan stopped the investigation in order to save the reputations of forty or fifty others who might become involved if anyone talked. This refers to leading members of the community who were Klansmen but were innocent of implication in that incident.

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According to [redacted] the former sheriff, JIM BLACK, actually investigated the terrorist cases and would have put any of the Klansmen in jail if he had any concrete proof of their guilt. It should be noted that at the time of the investigation in the above incident the strong political influence of the Klan undoubtedly stopped the investigation. It should be noted the incident occurred shortly before election. [redacted] recalls that Sheriff BLACK and the local constable frightened LEE DAVIS considerably by giving him a severe talking to. Before that time LEE DAVIS used to associate with the group of terrorists in Winter Garden and was always under suspicion. He believes DAVIS has ceased being active in any terrorist activities since he received the tongue-lashing from JIM BLACK.

[redacted] made the following observations concerning other persons mentioned:

MORGAN G. HOWARD was the former Justice of the Peace who helped the terrorists at one time but was not too bad an individual.

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

WILLIAM HARTZOG is probably one of the radical element in Winter Garden.

TOM RICE is known only casually to [redacted]

F. E. ~~LOOMIS~~, the undertaker at Winter Garden, was probably a radical person; however, LOOMIS became affiliated with the Klan after [redacted] left.

HORACE DUDLEY got along with the radical group in Winter Garden pretty well.

RAYMOND G. ~~HOWELL~~ of Ocoee saw eye to eye in what the radicals believed and would sustain their actions in any open meeting.

CARL "SID" SANDERS, the constable at Winter Garden, is a quiet, unassuming person he believes would not be engaged in any rough stuff.

ROY GUDGER now workes for a citrus man as a truck driver in Winter Garden, would not be trusted by the radicals because he would not keep his information to himself and they would not let him in on any of their terrorist pans.

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CLIFF A. ~~DAVIS~~ could have been with the radical element in Winter Garden.

EDWARD ~~FISHER~~ was a friend of all the radicals and would probably listen to their ideas.

W. O. ~~RENCHER~~ was the organizer who would do the paper work in obtaining the Association of Georgia Klans charter for the Winter Garden group.

E. S. KING, (possibly EDGAR KING), who lives off Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, is a brother-in-law of W. O. RENCHER and probably a radical.

EDDIE JACKSON of Orlando was never close to [redacted] His mind runs away with him. [redacted] was told JACKSON was a ringleader of the group which organized the Association of Georgia Klans in Orlando.

JPS/FFM:egh

MM 44-270

JIM EVERETT would be too careful a person to be involved in any terrorist activity.

JOHN T. THOMAS (wife CLARONEL H.), commonly known as TINY, assistant manager of the A & P Store, 533 Clayton, Orlando, is an overgrown baby who could be led into activities of a terrorist nature.

~~JOSEPH COX~~ believes in the principals of the old 1872 Ku Klux Klan.

C. W. HURD has a pretty level head and would not be engaged in any rough stuff.

ALBERT PARTEN is believed to have been in the TB hospital and now dead.

R. G. PITTMAN, formerly a principal in a local high school, died recently.

WILLIAM GODING of Apopka was a member of the old Klan and is still engaged in Klan activities.

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MEL WILLS who lives near [redacted] would know a lot about Klan activities since he knows all the Klansmen in the area.

FRED REISNER, constable at Apopka, was in the old Klan and is probably still in the Klan.

J. B. JOHNSON who lives near [redacted] on Pocket Lake appeared at the scene while the interviewing Agents were talking to [redacted] near another portion of Pocket Lake and asked [redacted] for the loan of the keys to his boat. [redacted] stated he had heard a lot of accusations against JOHNSON but was not able to say whether or not he was engaged in terrorist activities.

ART and BILL JOHNSON, brothers of J. B. JOHNSON, are only slightly known to [redacted] but he believes they are rambunctious persons.

The following persons were mentioned but [redacted] stated he did not know them:

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

ROBERT L. JUDAH  
ERVIN FIEDLER  
CLARENCE THOMPSON  
ALTON DIXON, JR. and SR.

S.C. "BUCK" WILLIAMS  
WILLIAM S. LEE  
JOE WADE  
ROY RAMSEY

[redacted] made the statement that the interviewing Agents had named 99% of those he would consider the radical element of the Klan who would be engaged in any terrorist activities in the Orlando area. He considered the group from the radical element in Winter Garden as the most rabid terrorists.

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Under the old Klan it was the practice to send any recommendations through the Klokann Committee. However, the newcomers in the Klan always insisted on handling things themselves outside the official Klan meetings which was one of the reasons for the break-up of the Florida Klan.

[redacted] advised he does not know much about terrorist activities in the Orlando area since Sheriff DAVE STARR came into office after defeating JIM BLACK.

When questioned closely about the persons who would be the most logical radical element which should be investigated for current terrorist activities KILGORE named EARL BROOKLYN, EDGAR BROOKLYN, CLAUDE YATES, KEMP MASK, ALEX SCHMITT, WILLARD SMITH, J. B. JOHNSON, ART JOHNSON and BILL JOHNSON, and possibly EDWARD FISHER and LEE DAVIS, DAVIS being a person who would know about terrorist activities.

[redacted] advised he had never heard of dynamite or any high explosives being used in any terrorist activities of which Klansmen might be accused. He related that since there is no control over the results of a dynamite explosion innocent people might be injured and the Klan terrorists at least claim they always get the right man.

He stated it is the practice for the radical element in Winter Garden and Apopka to interchange personnel on terrorist incidents. If any of the Klan organizations had a Klavern in Wildwood they would interchange with that Klavern if time permitted. He believed episodes which have occurred in recent years appear to be so spontaneous in their planning the persons involved would just hurriedly get into their cars, contact a nearby group and arrange for persons from that group to perform

JPS/FFM:egh  
MM 44-270

the "treatment". He believes the Apopka incident was done by the Winter Garden group at the request of the Apopka group.

He considered TILLMAN H. BELVIN as a man who for over twenty years was a hot-headed individual always engaged in one of the scrapes, suspected of implication in any of the the terrorist activities, according to general information. [redacted] insisted he himself was never out on a "ride" and therefore was not out with BELVIN and has no direct information about BELVIN's activities. BELVIN hung out with the two BROOKLYNS, EARL and EDGAR, for years, was one of the ringleaders in any hot terrorist activities, and was a leader in the formation of the radical Association of Georgia Klans in Orlando until about three or four years ago when his health became so poor he had to discontinue his association or activities almost entirely. [redacted] has not seen BELVIN in over a year.

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During the later years of the Old Klan in Florida, at least from 1939 to 1941, FRANK GARCIA and his son of Jacksonville, Florida, headed the Klan in Florida. It was [redacted] opinion that FRANK GARCIA was the front man for the Klan during those years. When asked about the fact Captain L. P. HAGAN was alleged to be Grand Dragon for the State of Florida prior to the national dissolution of the Klan, [redacted] advised it was possible he was the Grand Dragon for a short time prior to the dissolution.

Immediately after the national organization of the Klan disbanded in April, 1943, he and others whom he declined to name, organized the first Klan or Klavern in Orlando, obtaining a separate charter. This was the first Klan organized or formed in the State of Florida of the new Florida Klan and was given the name of the Fort Gatlin Klan, covering membership from Orlando and Winter Garden. The Florida Klan was really organized to protect the name of the organization and to prevent the use of it by irresponsible individuals who might be engaged in terrorist operations and using the name as a front. The Florida Klan was opposed to the use of robes or hoods and was opposed to violence of any nature. Captain HAGAN became head of the Klan, or the Grand Dragon, and [redacted], of the Florida Klan which was always a rather loose organization.

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This Florida Klan started with the following seven Klans or Klaverns: Orlando, Apopka, Sanford, Wildwood, Tampa, Fort Myers and Miami. Each Klavern used a different name associated with a person or place such as the Fort Gatlin Klan in Orlando. The Fort Myers Klavern took its name from a creek nearby. The Apopka Klavern took the name of the American Club.

Sometime in 1947 Dr. SAMUEL GREEN, who had been the secretary of the old Ku Klux Klan national organization in Atlanta, formed the Association of Georgia Klans which was commonly known to the Florida group as the "Georgia Ass Beating Klans". [redacted] insisted he and Captain HAGAN, who was a very fine man, were not persons to agree to any type of rough stuff or any terrorist activities. From the time of the formation of the Association of Georgia Klans there were repeated instances of violence for which the Georgia Klans, together with the Florida Klan, received blame. This was the main reason he and Captain HAGAN left the Klan.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on February 26, 1952, at Titusville, Florida.

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BASIS: PARRISH brothers of the Nevins Fruit Company interviewed to ascertain identity of any Klansmen in Brevard County in view of allegation their father was the leading Klansman in Brevard County.

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J. J. PARRISH stated he is the president of the Nevins Fruit Company and a former practicing attorney. He stated that at the time of his father's death it was his duty as administrator of his estate to go through all his father's effects and that at that time he had come across nothing which would indicate his father was in any way connected with the Ku Klux Klan. He stated his father was active in other organizations such as the Masons, Rotary Club and other organizations in and around Titusville. PARRISH stated that he did not recall anything during his father's lifetime indicating his father was active in the Klan, adding he would seriously doubt any such activity on his father's part.

He did recall that when he was a child of about twelve the Klan was active in Brevard County and in particular around Titusville. He recalled seeing parades of hooded men marching in the streets; however, since this time, some twentyfive or more years ago, he has heard nothing of any Klan activities in the area. He also stated neither he nor his brother, BARNARD PARRISH, have ever been approached by anyone to join the Klan. He noted this to be of significance because of their position in the community as leading business men. He stated he felt certain if there were any such activity in Brevard County one or both of them would have been approached to join the Klan.

BARNARD PARRISH furnished substantially the same information as did his brother, J. J. PARRISH. It will be noted both were very cooperative during the interviews and pledged to furnish any information coming to their attention concerning instant bombing should they receive any information in the future.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on February 28 and March 4, 1952, at Daytona Beach, Florida.

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BASIS: RANDOLPH LEE, teacher, Campbell Street High School, reputed to have information concerning the death of MOORE.

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RANDOLPH LEE, history teacher at the Campbell Street High School and also a minister at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Shiloh, Florida, advised he did not personally know MOORE or his wife but had been acquainted with MOORE's daughter, ANNIE ROSALEA, while she was in school at the Bethune-Cookman College. He said he possessed no information regarding MOORE's activities and knew nothing of his travels about the State of Florida in connection with his work in the NAACP. He said he knew of no enemies of MOORE and did not have any information concerning the bombing of MOORE's home on Christmas Day at Mims, Florida.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on February 19, 20 and 23, 1952, at Titusville, Florida.

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BASIS: Dr. CHARLES COPELAND SMITH alleged that ROY ROBERTS, former State Representative, publicly blamed MOORE for his defeat in the 1950 election and that STANLEY (luz) who is known to BURR of the Casa-Burr Inn, stated ROBERTS "had it in for" MOORE.

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WILLIAM H. BURR, Casa-Burr Inn, stated the only colored boy known to him as STANLEY is one STANLEY PINDER. BURR stated PINDER had been recommended to him by Dr. SMITH.

STANLEY PINDER advised he is an alien, being a citizen of the Bahamas, coming originally from Nassau. He stated he has been in this country continuously since 1949 and is at the present time applying for citizenship papers. He furnished this information to substantiate his statements that he has never been interested in politics in this country in any way.

In addition he stated that the name ROBERTS was vaguely known to him but he had never heard anything about ROBERTS in any way other than his wife told him Professor MOORE had advised the colored people to vote against ROBERTS in the 1950 election. PINDER stated he had never made any statement to anyone to the effect that ROBERTS had it in for MOORE.

By way of background the following persons were interviewed concerning their knowledge of ROY ROBERTS and his character.

WILLIAM AKERIDGE, attorney, and ROBERTS' opponent in the 1950 election.

ARTHUR A. DUNN, County Commissioner from the Mims District.  
Rev. WILLIAM KYZER.  
JAKE OSTERREICHER.  
Sheriff H. T. WILLIAMS.  
BARNARD and J. J. PARRISH.

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

The last two are brothers and the controlling members of the Nevins Packing Company at Titusville. They are active in political affairs in Brevard County and very familiar with the personalities of the various political figures in Brevard County.

All these individuals, including ROBERTS' successful opponent, state he is not the type person who would condone or back any such action as to bomb or kill because of political jealousy.

Sheriff WILLIAMS mentioned an incident where ROBERTS had attempted to fire one of his negro employees and the negro refused to leave because he liked working for ROBERTS. Ultimately ROBERTS rehired this negro and he is at the present time still employed by ROBERTS. WILLIAMS also advised that ROBERTS' son is at the present time and was at the time of the bombing a member of the Armed Forces. He felt sure ROBERTS' son was not at home over the Christmas holidays.

WILLIAM AKERIDGE furnished a newspaper clipping from a Cocoa newspaper which set forth the results of the election in 1950. It was noted that while AKERIDGE had a majority of votes, his majority was far from large, the final tally being 4457 votes for AKERIDGE as against 3272 votes for ROBERTS. Of particular interest was the vote in the Hopkins Precinct, an all-colored precinct: there the vote went 114 for AKERIDGE and 75 for ROBERTS, which would denote there is not a strong colored block of voters in Brevard County, either under the former leadership of MOORE or anyone else. The vote in Mims was recorded as 225 for AKERIDGE and 167 for ROBERTS. During the interview AKERIDGE mentioned that ROBERTS fully expected the colored vote to go against him inasmuch as he had many times in the past made remarks that would have alienated the colored vote. AKERIDGE said he did not believe it was the colored vote that had put him in office although it had materially aided his campaign.

All of the above individuals have advised that ROBERTS has recently suffered a severe heart attack and is presently confined to his bed.

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MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents FRANK F. MEECH and JAMES P. SHANNON on February 16, 1952, at Winter Garden, Florida.

BASIS: JOSEPH LEE DAVIS, aka Lee Davis, interviewed inasmuch as he has been identified as one of the Winter Garden Klan renegades.

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JOSEPH LEE DAVIS, aka Lee Davis, 91 North Main Street, stated he has been self employed as a carpenter and on and off by the Story Properties, Winter Garden, the past 30 years. He was interviewed at the Orlando Resident Agency. At the outset of the interview he stated he would not furnish the interviewing Agents with any information concerning the identity of fellow Klansmen or the activities of the Klan but rather would adhere to his Klan oath.

During the interview certain information was elicited from DAVIS after intensive questioning but he steadfastly refused to violate his Klan oath. When questioned about HARRY MOORE and instant case LEE DAVIS insisted that he had never heard the name until he heard of it through newspaper articles after MOORE's death. He had never heard anyone discuss HARRY MOORE prior to his death. He further insisted he knew nothing about terrorist activities in the Orlando or Winter Garden area except what he has read in the papers. When questioned about EARL BROOKLYN, LEE DAVIS claimed he helped BROOKLYN build a juke joint for BILL RUSS prior to World War II but has not seen him much except on trucks hauling concrete. He claimed he saw BROOKLYN only twice within the past three years, once three years ago working on a job on South Street in Orlando and again two years ago when BROOKLYN was hauling some concrete to Winter Garden.

He refused to state whether or not BROOKLYN had ever been in the Klan and claims he knows nothing of BROOKLYN's reputation but admitted having seen BROOKLYN engaged in fist fights at ball games. He related that EARL BROOKLYN and his brother, EDGAR, grew up in Ocoee where there was a race riot sometime about 1920. He does not believe

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

BROOKLYN likes negroes and would hit one who would "sass" him. In fact, he believes EARL BROOKLYN would fight anyone. At one time he helped BROOKLYN construct the house in the Lake Mann section of Orlando where BROOKLYN now resides.

When questioned about his own attitude toward negroes LEE DAVIS stated that in his belief there are a lot of good negroes and he would "go to bat" for any negro who was being mistreated. However, he would never consider eating with or mixing with negroes. He is for 100% segregation. He believes the negroes should develop as highly as they can within their own color line.

Regarding his attitude toward friction which might exist between the white and negro races, LEE DAVIS stated he would rather stay at home and let the law get any negro who had violated the law. He claimed he was only a spectator at the time of the Groveland incident and was not there on the night the negro homes were burned. He and EMORY BRANTLEY went to Groveland on the night the soldiers came into town. He insisted he did not see anyone else at Groveland whom he recognized. He believes the negroes got what was coming to them but does not believe in people taking the law in their own hands.

When questioned as to his statements in Winter Garden to various individuals that the FBI was checking on dynamite, LEE DAVIS said it was common knowledge the FBI was checking on dynamite and investigating the killing on Christmas Day. He claimed he overheard it at the police booth in Winter Garden.

LEE DAVIS insisted he is not presently a member of the Ku Klux Klan. He related he first joined the Klan in 1925 or 1928 but refused to say who recruited him. When questioned as to whether he maintained his membership continuously he stated most of the time he belonged to the Klan until he left about the end of 1948. Originally, years ago, he belonged to the old Winter Garden Klan which was started in about 1915. Long ago he was transferred to the Orlando Klavern of the Klan, at which time he was elected an officer. He has been an officer in the Klan two or three times but was never Exalted Cyclops. In 1944 the Orlando Klan (Florida Klan which comprised members from Winter Garden and Orlando) started using the block house located on Route 50 between Winter Garden and Orlando.

FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

Father	JOHN H. DAVIS, deceased
Mother	MOLLIE ELIZABETH NOWELL, 638 South Boyd, Winter Garden
Brother	GROVER C. DAVIS, Jacksonville, Florida
Sister	Mrs. BUD (CREOLA) OUTLAW, Route 1, Winter Garden, Florida
Wife	ESTELLE WEBB, married September 1926 at Orlando
Sons	

Daughters



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Education

3rd grade

LEE DAVIS was fingerprinted and photographs in various poses were taken.

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FFM/JPS:egh  
MM 44-270

When questioned about the attempt to oust TILLMAN H. BELVIN as Exalted Cyclops of the Orlando Klavern, DAVIS refused to make any answer except to admit he had known BELVIN for many years. He refused to state whether or not he was in the Klan when BELVIN was Exalted Cyclops. In 1948 he was one of those who obtained a new charter for a West Orange Klan in the Association of Georgia Klans in Winter Garden. When he left the Orlando Klavern of the Florida Klan to start the new Georgia Klan in Winter Garden there was nothing left of the Orlando Klavern.

DAVIS was questioned about numerous individuals who were known to be or to have been members of the Klan but maintained silence concerning their membership in the Klan. He stated he had known HORACE DUDLEY for many years and did not think much of him and believed he had a poor reputation in Winter Garden. He had been told that he "Sunday bootlegs".

DAVIS insisted he had never been suspended or banished from the Klan, that he quit of his own volition late in 1948 or early in 1949 after he read so much about the fact the Klan was about to be outlawed and he did not want to be involved in the Klan. He admitted he was paid up through 1949 and that he might have attended one or two meetings in 1949.

When questioned about a shipment of 42 Klan robes which had been made by the Imperial Headquarters of Atlanta to Winter Garden in 1948 DAVIS admitted he was secretary of this West Orange Klan of the Association of Georgia Klans at that time. He did make a remark that the name of the old Orlando Klan when he joined it was the John E. Wells Klan.

The following is a description of JOSEPH ~~LEE~~ DAVIS, aka Lee Davis, as obtained from observation and interrogation:

Race	white
Sex	male
Height	5'8"
Weight	190
Eyes	blue, wears tinted glasses
Hair	brown, thin in front
Complexion	ruddy

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and ROBERT T. NISCHWITZ on February 20, 22 and 27, 1952, at Mims and Oviedo, Florida.

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BASIS: Reinterview ~~WILLIAM S. LEE~~ to determine his activities the night of December 25, 1951.

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Rev. WILLIAM KYZER was interviewed at his ranch located approximately fifteen miles west of Mims on February 20, 1952. He stated LEE came to his home a day or two before Christmas and asked if he, his uncle FRANK WHEELER of Oviedo and his cousin FRANK WHEELER, JR. could spend Christmas and Christmas night at Rev. KYZER's camp to do a little hunting. He stated he gave his approval and that the hunting party including LEE came out to his camp early on the afternoon of Christmas Day. He stated he himself went home that night, leaving during the early evening hours and did not return to the camp until approximately 8:00 the following morning. He stated that at that time all of them were present and eating breakfast. He told them of the bombing and all of them, including LEE, appeared to be genuinely surprised. He recalled LEE stating something to the effect that his wife would have a lot to tell him. He recalled LEE stating something to the effect "There's another there in Mims that is going to get it and that is ED McNEIL." Rev. KYZER related the incident he had heard from LEE regarding McNEIL. According to the story told KYZER by LEE, McNEIL who is a colored man had been assisting LEE in budding some orange trees, at which time they got into a conversation about the negro's place. LEE reportedly asked McNEIL if he thought it proper for a negro to eat at the same table with a white man to which McNEIL replied he saw nothing against it. According to LEE's story, he then and there administered a severe beating to McNEIL. Rev. KYZER stated he personally does not believe the story, explaining that in his opinion LEE is an habitual and incorrigible liar who tells tall stories so many times that eventually he begins to believe them himself. In connection with the McNEIL story, Rev. KYZER further substantiated his belief that it was a lie by the fact he has never heard anything about it from anyone else. He stated any incident such as that would certainly

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

have been noticed and noised about by either the colored or the white people, or both.

Rev. KYZER stated he did not know whether LEE had ever been a member of the Ku Klux Klan, adding that LEE had never made any mention about the organization one way or the other.

FRANK WHEELER, SR. was interviewed at his place of business in Oviedo on February 22, 1952. He stated that he, his son FRANK WHEELER, JR. and WILLIAM LEE had arrived at Kyzer's Camp about 2:00 or 3:00 P.M. December 25, 1951, and that they all remained there the entire afternoon and night. WHEELER stated he had gone to bed about 10:00 P.M. while his son and LEE stayed up and talked on the porch of the camp until possibly 11:00 P.M. or midnight. He stated his son and LEE slept in the same place. He advised that if anyone had left the camp during the night he would have known it because he is a very light sleeper and would have been awakened by any movements. He also recalled KYZER's appearance at the camp the following morning at which time they were told of the bombing.

FRANK WHEELER, JR. was interviewed at his place of business February 22, 1952. He furnished substantially the same information as his father and explained that he, LEE and LEE's minor son, JOHN, had remained up talking on the camp porch until about 11:00 P.M. He stated he was positive no one left the camp all evening.

WILLIAM S. LEE was interviewed February 27, 1952, at which time he readily admitted having been a member of the Ku Klux Klan during the early 1940s. He stated he joined the organization in Orange County and that it was known as the Possum Club. He stated he had joined the Klan at the recommendation of his friend, FRED BASS, now deceased. He recalled they had a meeting place in a building located on a lake near Orlando but he was unable to recall the exact location of this building. He stated that after attending not more than three or four meetings he began to acquire an extreme dislike for the type of things that were voiced at these meetings. In this connection he recalled an incident which occurred at the last meeting he attended which had been called in honor of Dr. SAMUEL GREEN, Imperial Wizard of the Association of Georgia Klans, now deceased. He stated someone, unknown to him, had put a proposal before the group to take a certain negro out and beat him. As nearly as he was able to recall there was a

RES/RTN:egh  
MM 44-270

deputy sheriff present at the meeting who he believes came from Ocoee. He recalled this individual made a statement to the effect there were some things the law could not do which the Klan could do. LEE stated he was thoroughly convinced at that meeting he did not want to have anything to do with the Klan.

He stated when he originally joined the Klan he believed it to be a social group and that most of the meetings he attended consisted merely of fish fries.

During the course of the interview LEE stated he is sure now that he did not even know MOORE, explaining the man he thought was HARRY MOORE was seen by him a few days ago in front of the Post Office. From his description of this individual and his car it is believed the person LEE had thought was MOORE is actually BEN WARREN.

LEE stated that at no time has anyone asked him to get any information about MOORE nor has anyone asked him for information about MOORE.

He was questioned concerning his statement to the effect he believed all negroes were nothing more than mules. He explained by saying he did believe they were mules in the sense they are at the present time primarily beasts of burden as is any laboring man be the white or colored. He went on to state he had a very firm desire to see this particular bombing cleared up regardless of who might have been involved. He emphasized this statement by saying that even if his own brother were involved in the bombing he would be the first to turn him in.

He was questioned about the talk he had reportedly had with Sheriff McCALL of Lake County in which it was reported that both the sheriff and LEE thought the bombing was a very funny thing. LEE stated he did not think the bombing was funny and as nearly as he can recall the conversation he and the sheriff were just joking back and forth about it in general conversation. He stated he was unable to recall any statements either of them had made.

During the interview LEE volunteered he recalled an incident at Vero Beach in which a man had jokingly asked him why he blew up that negro at Mims. He stated he replied in the same joking vein that he just could not help it. He said there was no seriousness intended or conveyed by either the question or the answer.

RES/RIN:egh  
MM 44-270

Concerning Ku Klux Klan activities LEE reiterated that he has not been actively associated with the Klan in any way for the past two or three years or more. He pointed out that the last meeting he attended was the Klan meeting above described. He stated the only persons he can recall who were actively engaged in Klan work in Orange County were HERMIT SMITH who lives in Winter Garden, ALEX SCHMITT whom he described as a big man in the GREEN meeting and one IRVIN FIEDLER of Winter Garden, employed by the Citrus Growers Association.

LEE stated he believes they have changed the name from the Possum Club to the Centzzy Club.

He mentioned BRANTLEY the barber at Winter Garden and stated a man made the statement that someone ought to go to the FBI and report SCHMITT and his associates for beating a negro. He did not name the man who made the statement; however, he said he was SCHMITT's boss at the Winter Garden Citrus Growers Association.

During the course of the interview it was learned LEE has recently resigned from his job and is at the present time self employed as a citrus grower. He has resided in Mims since December, 1950.

In previous interview with LEE he stated one BILL FOLSOM of Mims might have some information regarding instant case. FOLSOM stated he had no information which would be of value to the case and added that he has a large number of negro workers employed by him with all of whom he has talked from time to time about the bombing. He stated as a result of these talks he had become convinced the colored people in and around Mims either know absolutely nothing about the bombing or its perpetrators or else they were extremely frightened and refused to say anything.

Concerning LEE, FOLSOM stated that LEE is an habitual liar and given to telling tall stories about his rough treatment of negroes. FOLSOM stated he is sure there is no truth in these stories because he has never heard anything about them from any other source. He stated one of his colored workers, EZKIA BRITT, who has been in his employ for many years, whom he considers a reliable source of information, has never made any mention of any of these beatings allegedly administered by LEE and has not made any mention of the MOORE bombing.

P E N D I N G

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

I N D E X

	Page
ABRAMS, GEORGE . . . . .	56
ADAMS, CALVIN . . . . .	62-65
ADAMS, OLEATHA . . . . .	66, 69
AHIK, JERRY . . . . .	59, 61
AKERIDGE . . . . .	108, 109
AKERMAN, ALEX . . . . .	71, 72
ALLEN, G. A. . . . .	62
ALLEN, WILLIE . . . . .	56
AMERICAN CLUB . . . . .	8, 98, 104
AUTOMOBILES	
Chevrolet, green or light grey . . . . .	91
1949 Chevrolet 4-door sedan, 1951 Florida tag 3-11040 . . . . .	88
Ford with broken exhaust and cloth upholstery . . . . .	91, 93
1949 Lincoln coupe, 1951 Florida tag 3W-5531 . . . . .	89
BAKER, CLOWIE . . . . .	75
BALLARD, WALTER . . . . .	46-48, 50
BARKIN, VIOLA . . . . .	56
BARTON, LLOYD . . . . .	56
BASS, E. K. . . . .	62
BASS, FRED . . . . .	23, 115
BATES, GLYDE . . . . .	70
BELL, JOHNNY . . . . .	56
BELVIN, TILLMAN HOLLEY "CURLY" . . . . .	1, 3, 6, 14, 17, 22, 23, 25, 31, 35, 36, 42, 44, 46, 47, 48, 50, 61, 97, 98, 99, 105, 112
BERNHARD, JOSEPH W. . . . .	39, 40
BERNHARD, WARREN K. "BERNIE" . . . . .	14, 27, 33, 36, 39, 40, 42, 44
BIRD, SAM . . . . .	56, 73-75
BLACK, JAMES "JIM" . . . . .	100, 103
BLANE, CHARLIE . . . . .	56
BLANE, ELIZABETH . . . . .	56
BLANE, EUGENE . . . . .	56
BLANE, LOUISE . . . . .	56
BLANE, TEMPIE . . . . .	56
BOGAR, WILLIAM "BILL" . . . . .	5-8, 11-15, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24-26, 30-37, 39, 42, 43, 50, 91, 95, 98

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

BOGAR, MRS. BILL . . . . .	15
BRANTLEY, EMORY . . . . .	61, 100, 111, 117
BRANTLEY, JAMES . . . . .	.61
BREWER, EUGENE . . . . .	90, 91, 94
BRITT, EZKIA . . . . .	117
BRITT, HEZKIE . . . . .	.56
BRITT, J. C. . . . .	.56
BRITT, ROBERT . . . . .	.56
BRITT, ZEKE . . . . .	.56
BROOKLYN, EARL J. . . . .	1, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 14, 17, 20-23, 25, 30-32, 35-37, 39, 41, 43-46, 48-50, 61, 90, 94, 95, 99, 103, 105, 110, 111
BROOKLYN, EDGAR . . . . .	14, 23, 25, 31, 32, 35, 36, 39, 61, 99, 103, 105, 110
BROUGH, WALTON HENRY . . . . .	6, 17, 26, 97
BROWN, DETECTIVE . . . . .	58
BROWN, FRED . . . . .	56
BURNETT, HOWARD T. . . . .	56
BURNETT, MRS. HOWARD T. . . . .	56
BURNETT, T. F. . . . .	86
BURR, WILLIAM H. . . . .	108
CARMICHAEL, RAYMOND . . . . .	9, 10
CARPENTER BOYS . . . . .	93
CENTURY CLUB . . . . .	8, 97
CHEROKEE, #7 KLAN . . . . .	97, 98
CHEWNING, DETECTIVE . . . . .	58, 59
CHILDS, CLYDE . . . . .	18, 19
CHILDS, PAULINE . . . . .	18
CLAIR, MELVIN . . . . .	56
CLARK, ARTHUR . . . . .	56
CLEVE BROTHERS . . . . .	56
CLIBORNE, JAMES LEWIS . . . . .	67, 69, 70
COEBS, ROBERT . . . . .	56
COGER, EFFEN . . . . .	56
COGER, SYLVESTER . . . . .	78
COOPER, AUBREY . . . . .	10
COX, JOSEPH . . . . .	102
GRANDELL, ISAAC . . . . .	56
CREAMETTE . . . . .	58, 59, 61, 84, 85
CUMMINGS, NANCY . . . . .	71
CUYLER, FLORENCE . . . . .	56
CUYLER, FRED . . . . .	56
CUYLER, PAUL . . . . .	56

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

DAMSEL, DR. CHARLES H. . . . .	95
DAUTRY, MATHEW . . . . .	56
DAVIS, CLIFF A. . . . .	101
DAVIS, REV. E. D. . . . .	64
DAVIS, ED . . . . .	72
DAVIS, JOSEPH LEE "LEE" . . . . .	25, 28, 61, 100, 103, 110-113
DAVIS, NEAL . . . . .	80
DEAL, SUE . . . . .	92
DIXON, ALTON, JR. . . . .	33, 103
DIXON, ALTON, SR. . . . .	103
DIX, SHELLEY W. . . . .	78
DONNLEY, COLUMBIA . . . . .	56
DUBOSE, WILLIAM . . . . .	83
DUDLEY, HORACE . . . . .	18, 28, 61, 101, 112
DUNN, ARTHUR A. . . . .	108
DUNN, F. A. . . . .	62-64
DUNN, TAYLOR . . . . .	52
DUNNAWAY, WILLIAM . . . . .	33, 37, 41, 42
EDWARDS, JERRY . . . . .	73-75
ELROD, WILLIAM . . . . .	27
EVERETT, JAMES CICERO "JIM" . . . . .	102
EVINS, GLEN . . . . .	88
FARNUM, GEORGE . . . . .	93
FIEDLER, ERVIN (IRVIN) . . . . .	28, 61, 103, 117
FIELDHOUSE, TOM . . . . .	34
FIELDS, ARTHUR . . . . .	56
FISHER, EDWARD . . . . .	101, 103
FOLSOM, BILL . . . . .	117
FORDHAM, WILLIAM . . . . .	88
FORTENBERRY, A. . . . .	51-53
FORT GATLIN KLAN . . . . .	97, 104
<hr/>	
FULLER, ALLEN M. . . . .	79
FULLER, MRS. ALLEN M. (MARTON) . . . . .	79
FULLER, OSCAR . . . . .	56
GARCIA, FRANK . . . . .	104
GEIGER, ANDREW JACKSON "JACK" . . . . .	27, 33, 42-44 (description)
GEORGE, LELAND . . . . .	24, 33

b6  
b7c



TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

GIBBS, ROBERT . . . . .	28
GILBERT, CURTIS . . . . .	56
GILLIAM, GARRETT I. . . . .	47-50
GOFF, EDWIN . . . . .	58-61
GODING, WILLIAM B., SR. . . . .	28, 61, 102
GRACY BOYS . . . . .	93
GRANT, EZEKA, JR. . . . .	56
GRANT, JACOB . . . . .	56
GRANT, JAMES . . . . .	56
GRANT, LOTTIE MAE . . . . .	56
GRANT, MINNIE . . . . .	56
GRANT, ROBERT . . . . .	56
GRANT, TOM . . . . .	56
GRANT, WALTER . . . . .	56
GREEN, DR. SAMUEL . . . . .	6, 24, 97, 104, 115
GRIGGS, EARL T. "TRIGGER" . . . . .	52, 66, 67, 69, 70
GRIMM, RALPH . . . . .	56
GUDGER, ROY . . . . .	61, 101
GUMSBY, LEBBI . . . . .	56
GUYTON, LEVY . . . . .	56
HAGAN, LOVIC PIERCE . . . . .	96, 97, 99, 104
HALL, EZEKIAL PATRICK "PAT" . . . . .	61
HAMMERICK, CARROLL . . . . .	46-48, 50
HAMMERICK, WILSON . . . . .	46, 47
HAMPTON, LEONARD L. . . . .	56
HARDEE, LESTER GORDON (HARDY) . . . . .	27, 30-34, 36
HARMON, WILLARD . . . . .	45-48, 50
HARRIS, WILLIE . . . . .	56
HARTZOG, WILLIAM . . . . .	101
HATCH, HERBERT H. . . . .	87
HATFIELD, IKE . . . . .	56
HAYES, ALBERT EDWARD . . . . .	11-16, 22, 27, 36, 50, 91, 94, 95
HAYNES, E. K. . . . .	56
HAZE, OBIE . . . . .	56
HENDRIX, WILLIAM "BILL" . . . . .	12, 13, 47
HESTER, JAMES . . . . .	56
HIGHSMITH, EZEKIEL . . . . .	56
HOBBS, FLORENCE . . . . .	84

b6  
b7c

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

HOLLAND, ARTHUR HENRY	1, 54, 79
HOLT	80
HOWARD, MORGAN G.	99, 100
HOWELL, RAYMOND G.	28, 61, 101
HUGGINS, BRUCE	27
HUGGINS, PHILIP SAMUEL	23-28 (description), 29, 37, 61, 98
HUNT, LOUIS T.	7, 9, 10
HURD, G. W.	102
IRVIN, WALTER LEE	71, 78
ISOM, EZRUM "RED"	61
JACKSON, FRANCIS EDWARD "EDDIE"	13, 61, 101
JACKSON, JOHN	95
JAMES, BILL	59
JAMES, JERRY	56
JAMES, JOHN HENRY	56
JAMES, WILLIE	56
JAMES, WILLIE, JR.	56
JERNIGAN, ADIS	28, 61
JEFFERSON, CLINTON	56
JOHNSON, ARTHUR "ART"	61, 102, 103
JOHNSON, JAMES	61
JOHNSON, JAMES B.	15, 17, 46-48, 50, 54, 102, 103
JOHNSON, MERIAH	56
JOHNSON, ROBERT	56
JOHNSON, T. F.	56
JOHNSON, MRS. THEODORE (NELLIE)	90
JOHNSON, THOMAS LEE	73
JOHNSON, T. J.	56
JOHNSON, WILLIAM "BILL"	102, 103
JOHNSON, WILLIE	56
JOINER, FRED	94
JORDEN, IRENE	56
JUDAH, ROBERT LLOYD	1, 3, 4 (description), 5, 14, 17, 22, 23, 25 33, 35, 42, 46-48, 50, 61, 103
JUMP, GEORGE	100
KIDD, CLARENCE	56
KINDELL, ISAAC	56

b6  
b7c

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

KINDELL, MAY	56
KING, E. S.	101
KIRKLAND, ALICE	56
KYZER, REV. WILLIAM	108, 114, 115
LAMB, B. I. "BUD"	47, 48, 50
LASHLEY, N. T.	12
LAST NAME UNKNOWN	
EVA	76
WILLIE MAE	75, 76
LEE, EUGENE	56
LEE, GEORGE	56
LEE, JOHN HENRY	56, 115
LEE, RANDOLPH	107
LEE, WILLIAM S. "BILL"	61, 103, 114-117
LEWIS, SHELLY	56
LEWIS, WILL	56
LICENSES	
1951 Florida 3-11040	88
1951 Florida 3W-5531	89
1951 Florida 3W-7859	86
1951 Florida 41-973	87
LOCKE, RADFORD D.	88
LONG	92
LOOMIS, F. E.	98, 101
LOVETT, HARDY	89
LOVETT, JAMES	89
LOWE, EUGEN	56
MALLOY, JIMMY	56
MANNING, SIMON SMITH	61
MARLO, FRANK	58, 60, 61
MARTINO, ERVIN	56
MARTINO, LUCIUS	56
MASK, KEMP	25, 61, 100, 103
MASSEY, REV. FRED	56
MASSEY, REV. JAMES H.	82
McBRIDE, DR. T. E.	9, 95
McCALL, Sheriff WILLIS V.	15, 72, 116
McCLERDON, M. C.	56
McLIN, D. B.	64

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

McCLOUD, ALICE . . . . .	56
McCLOUD, GEORGE . . . . .	57
McKENZIE, ADEL . . . . .	57, 66-69, 75
McKENZIE, ARTHUR, JR. . . . .	57, 66-69
McKENZIE, ARTHUR, SR. . . . .	57, 68
McKENZIE, CHESTER . . . . .	57, 68, 75, 76
McKENZIE, EDWARD . . . . .	68
McKENZIE, RALEIGH . . . . .	68
McMENNAMY, T. J. . . . .	15, 24, 33
McNEILL, CHARLIE W. . . . .	89
McNEIL, ED . . . . .	114
McRAE, SUSAN . . . . .	57
MERRITT, "PREACHER" . . . . .	94
MESSER, LOD "BAD EYE" . . . . .	51, 52
MIMS, JOE . . . . .	57
MITCHELL, COLEMAN . . . . .	57
MITCHELL, JAMES . . . . .	57
MITCHELL, REV. JOHN M. . . . .	57
MITCHELL, MANZEL . . . . .	57
MITCHELL, ROBERT . . . . .	57
MOODY, WILLIAM . . . . .	57
MOORE, ANNIE ROSALEA . . . . .	78, 107
MOORE, EVANGELINE . . . . .	78
MOORE, JAMES PERRY . . . . .	17-19 (description), 27, 33, 50, 91, 95
MOORE, ROBERT . . . . .	47, 48
MORRIS, HUGH . . . . .	26
MOSLEY, CHARLES . . . . .	57
MOSLEY, JESSIE B. . . . .	57
<hr/>	
MYERS, LYMAN . . . . .	32, 90-94
MYERS, MRS. LYMAN . . . . .	93
NEAL, VIOLA . . . . .	57
NICHOLS, WILLIE . . . . .	57, 75, 76
NISBET, DAVID S. . . . .	51, 52
NOBLE, IRA . . . . .	52
OSTERREICHER, JAKE . . . . .	108

b6  
b7c

TR:egh  
MM 44-279

PARRISH, BARNARD . . . . .	106, 108
PARRISH, J. J. . . . .	106, 108
PARTEN, ALBERT . . . . .	102
PASCHAL, ROGER . . . . .	80, 81
PEAVY, MAE . . . . .	60, 61
PETERS, GENEVA . . . . .	57
PETERS, DOUGLAS . . . . .	57
PIERCE, RUNETT . . . . .	57
PINDER, STANLEY . . . . .	108
PIPKIN, EDDIE . . . . .	57
PITTMAN, ARTHUR A. . . . .	46
PITTMAN, R. G., JR. . . . .	27, 102
PITTMAN, R. G., SR. . . . .	27
PLUMBER, ELNORA . . . . .	57
POLK, A. J. . . . .	64
POSEY, SKELLY . . . . .	57
PRIMER, PETER . . . . .	57
PRITCHARD, DETECTIVE . . . . .	58, 59
RAINS, ELLA MAE . . . . .	57
RAINS, MAYO . . . . .	57
RAMSEY, ROY CARLOS . . . . .	13, 31, 32, 61, 103
REED, ALEX . . . . .	57
REISNER, FRED . . . . .	1, 5-9, 17, 22, 23, 27, 33, 36, 37, 42, 47, 50, 94, 102
RENCHER, W. O. . . . .	101
REYNOLDS, DETECTIVE . . . . .	58
RICE, JAMES THOMAS . . . . .	46-48, 50, 61, 101
ROACH, NATHANIEL . . . . .	57
ROBERTS, ROY . . . . .	108, 109
ROBINSON, RUSSELL . . . . .	57
ROBINSON WILLIE . . . . .	57
RODENBAUGH, CARL . . . . .	58, 84
RODWELL, WILBUR P. . . . .	57
ROPER, SAM . . . . .	6, 13, 17, 26, 32
ROSS, SAM . . . . .	57
ROZIER, GERALDINE . . . . .	57
RUSS, BILL . . . . .	110
RYAN, NAT . . . . .	95

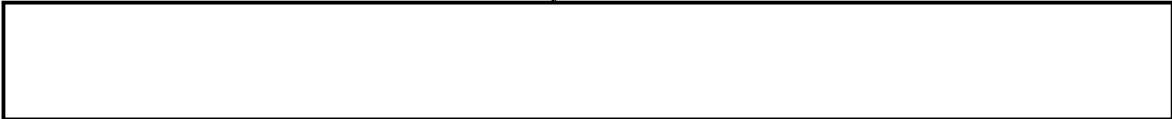
TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

SAMS, MURRAY . . . . .	80
SAMUEL II . . . . .	12
SANDERS, CARL "SID" . . . . .	99, 101
SAWYER, EUGENE . . . . .	57
SAWYER, PAT . . . . .	57
SAWYER, WILL . . . . .	57
SCHMITT, ALFONSO F. "ALEX" . . . . .	13, 14, 25, 31, 32, 42, 46-48, 50, 61, 100, 103, 117
SCOFIELD, H. J. . . . .	87
SEIGLER, EUGENE . . . . .	57
SEIGLER, F. S., JR. . . . .	57
SEIGLER, F. S., SR. . . . .	57
SEIGLER, JENNIE . . . . .	57
SEIGLER, LEE . . . . .	57
SHELTON, HAZEL . . . . .	57
SHEPHERD, SAMUEL . . . . .	71
SHEPPARD, L. H. "POP" . . . . .	11, 13, 18, 22, 24, 27, 30, 31, 33, 35, 36, 98
SILBY, EARNEST . . . . .	57
SIMMONS, AMANDA . . . . .	57
SIMMS, GEORGE . . . . .	78
SIMMS, MRS. GEORGE (MAE) . . . . .	78
SLOAN, RANDOLF . . . . .	57
SMALLBONE, FRANK . . . . .	61
SMITH, DR. CHARLES COPELAND . . . . .	108
SMITH, HERMIT . . . . .	8, 28, 117
SMITH, JULE . . . . .	57
SMITH, LAWRENCE . . . . .	27, 35, 95
SMITH, LONNIE . . . . .	57
SMITH, T. J. . . . .	57
SMITH, WILLARD . . . . .	28, 100, 103
STARR, DAVE . . . . .	45, 103
STARWOOD, SHERWOOD . . . . .	33
STEVENS . . . . .	33
STEVENS, R. G. . . . .	24
STRICKLAND, H. J. . . . .	57
STROMAN . . . . .	74
TALTON, JOHN . . . . .	27
TAYLOR, ROBERT . . . . .	57
TAYLOR, RUBY LEE . . . . .	57

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

b6  
b7c

THOMAS, ED. . . . . 93, 94 (description)  
THOMAS, JAMES . . . . . 57  
THOMAS, JOHN T. "TINY" . . . . . 28, 102  
THOMAS, MRS. JOHN T. (CLARONEL H.) . . . . . 102  
THOMAS, MRS. MARIE . . . . . 57, 66  
THOMPSON, CLARENCE . . . . . 103  
THOMPSON, ELI . . . . . 15, 27, 36, 37 (description), 50, 61, 95  
TRAVIS, HERMAN . . . . . 57  
TRAVIS, MERITA . . . . . 57  
TRAVIS, REBECCA . . . . . 57  
  
VARNER, D. . . . . 46-48, 50



WARREN, BEN . . . . . 67, 74, 76, 116  
WARREN, CRANDALL . . . . . 57, 73  
WARREN, JOE . . . . . 57  
WASHINGTON, O. K. . . . . 57  
WEATHERS, JOHNNY . . . . . 51  
WEST, CICERO . . . . . 57  
WEST, H. C. . . . . 57  
WEST ORANGE KLAN . . . . . 97  
WHEELER, FRANK, JR. . . . . 114, 115  
WHEELER, FRANK, SR. . . . . 114, 115  
WHITE, ETHEL . . . . . 64  
WHITE, WILLIAM MELVIN . . . . . 20 (description), 23, 27, 33, 50, 94, 95  
WHITEHURST, J. A. . . . . 62  
WILLIAMS, CAP . . . . . 57  
WILLIAMS, FLORA . . . . . 57  
WILLIAMS, SHERIFF H. T. . . . . 67, 74, 76, 108, 109  
WILLIAMS, S. C. "BUCK" . . . . . 61, 103  
WILLIS, ROGERS . . . . . 80, 81  
WILLIS, MEL . . . . . 102  
WILSON, FERREL . . . . . 94  
WILSON, FLORIDA . . . . . 77



WOODS, JOHN T. . . . . 57  
WYNN, JACK . . . . . 57

YATES, CLAUDE . . . . . 32, 94, 99 (description), 103

TEM:egh  
MM 44-270

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Tel is [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

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REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED] Miami, 2-23-52.  
Numerous telephone calls from the Bureau to Miami and numerous teletypes between Miami and the Bureau as well as Miami and auxiliary offices.